

Cellcom Israel Ltd.
Form 20-F
March 04, 2013

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 20-F

REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

OR

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

OR

SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of event requiring this shell company report

Commission file number 001-33271

CELLCOM ISRAEL LTD.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter
and translation of Registrant's name into English)

ISRAEL

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

10 Hagavish Street, Netanya 42140, Israel

(Address of principal executive offices)

Liat Menahemi Stadler, 972-52-9989595 (phone), 972-98607986 (fax), LIATME@cellcom.co.il, 10 Hagavish Street,
Netanya 42140, Israel

(Name, Telephone, E-mail and/or Facsimile number and Address of Company Contact Person)

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act.

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Ordinary Shares, par value NIS 0.01 per share	New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE")

None

(Title of Class)

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act.

None

(Title of Class)

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer's classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

As of December 31, 2012, the Registrant had outstanding 99,481,487 Ordinary Shares, par value NIS 0.01 per share.

Indicate by check mark if the Registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes No

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the Registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports), and has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files)

Yes No

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer

Indicate by check mark which basis of accounting the Registrant has used to prepare the financial statements included in this filing:

U.S. GAAP

International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board

Other

If "Other" has been checked in response to the previous question, indicate by check mark which financial statement item the Registrant elected to follow.

Item 17

Item 18

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).[] Yes[X] No

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
PART I	
<u>Item 1.</u>	<u>Identity of Directors, Senior Management and Advisers</u> 5
<u>Item 2.</u>	<u>Offer Statistics and Expected Timetable</u> 5
<u>Item 3.</u>	<u>Key Information</u> 5
<u>Item 4.</u>	<u>Information on the Company</u> 35
<u>Item 4A.</u>	<u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u> 94
<u>Item 5.</u>	<u>Operating and Financial Review and Prospects</u> 94
<u>Item 6.</u>	<u>Directors, Senior Management and Employees</u> 122
<u>Item 7.</u>	<u>Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions</u> 140
<u>Item 8.</u>	<u>Financial Information</u> 144
<u>Item 9.</u>	<u>The Offer and Listing</u> 148
<u>Item 10.</u>	<u>Additional Information</u> 150
<u>Item 11.</u>	<u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u> 165
<u>Item 12.</u>	<u>Description of Securities Other than Equity Securities</u> 166
PART II	
<u>Item 13.</u>	<u>Defaults, Dividend Arrearages and Delinquencies</u> 166
<u>Item 14.</u>	<u>Material Modifications to the Rights of Security Holders and Use of Proceeds</u> 166
<u>Item 15.</u>	<u>Controls and Procedures</u> 166
<u>Item 16A.</u>	<u>Audit Committee Financial Expert</u> 168
<u>Item 16B.</u>	<u>Code of Ethics</u> 168
<u>Item 16C.</u>	<u>Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u> 168
<u>Item 16D.</u>	<u>Exemptions from the Listing Standards for Audit Committees</u> 169
<u>Item 16E.</u>	<u>Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers</u> 169
<u>Item 16F.</u>	<u>Change In Registrant's Certifying Accountant</u> 169
<u>Item 16G.</u>	<u>Corporate Governance</u> 169
<u>Item 16H.</u>	<u>Mine Safety Disclosure</u> 170
PART III	
<u>Item 17.</u>	<u>Financial Statements</u> 171
<u>Item 18.</u>	<u>Financial Statements</u> 171
<u>Item 19.</u>	<u>Exhibits</u> 171
<u>Financial Statements</u>	<u>F-1</u>

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION

In this annual report, “Cellcom,” the “Company,” “we,” “us” and “our” refer to Cellcom Israel Ltd. and its subsidiaries. The terms “NIS” refers to new Israeli shekel, and “dollar,” “USD” or “\$” refers to U.S. dollars.

Presentation of Financial and Share Information

We prepare our consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (“IASB”).

Unless we indicate otherwise, U.S. dollar translations of the NIS amounts presented in this annual report are translated for the convenience of the reader using the rate of NIS 3.733 to \$1.00, the representative rate of exchange as of December 31, 2012 as published by the Bank of Israel. The translation is for the convenience of the reader only, and it does not represent the fair value of the translated assets and liabilities.

Trademarks

We have proprietary rights to trademarks used in this annual report which are important to our business. We have omitted the “®” and “™” designations for certain trademarks, but nonetheless reserve all rights to them. Each trademark, trade name or service mark of any other company appearing in this annual report belongs to its respective holder.

Industry and Market Data

This annual report contains information about our market share, market position and industry data. Unless otherwise indicated, this statistical and other market information is based on statistics prepared by the Ministry of Communications of Israel, the Ministry of Finance of Israel, the Central Bureau of Statistics of Israel, the Bank of Israel, Merrill Lynch, Brandman Research (survey institute), Strategy Analytics, Informa and Meida Shivuki C.I (survey institute). Industry publications generally state that the information they contain has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but the accuracy and completeness of such information is not guaranteed. We have not independently verified the accuracy of market data and industry forecasts contained in this annual report that were taken or derived from these industry publications.

Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

We have made statements under the captions “Item 3.D - Risk Factors,” “Item 4 – Information on the Company,” “Item 5 - Operating and Financial Review and Prospects,” and in other sections of this annual report that are forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify these statements by forward-looking words such as “may,” “might,” “will,” “should,” “expect,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “predict,” “potential” or “continue,” the negative of these terms and comparable terminology. These forward-looking statements, which are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions about us, may include projections of our future financial performance, our anticipated growth strategies and anticipated trends in our business. These statements are only predictions based on our current expectations and projections about future events. There are important factors that could cause our actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements to differ materially from the results, level of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the

Table of Contents

forward-looking statements, including those factors discussed under the caption entitled “Item 3.D - Risk Factors.” You should specifically consider the numerous risks outlined under “Item 3.D - Risk Factors.”

Although we believe the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements contained in this annual report are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, level of activity, performance or achievements. Moreover, neither we nor any other person assumes responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of any of these forward-looking statements. We assume no duty to update any of these forward-looking statements after the date of this annual report to conform our prior statements to actual results or revised expectations, except as otherwise required by law.

PART I

ITEM 1. IDENTITY OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND ADVISORS

Not applicable.

ITEM 2. OFFER STATISTICS AND EXPECTED TIMETABLE

Not applicable.

ITEM 3. KEY INFORMATION

A. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

You should read the following selected consolidated financial data in conjunction with the section of this annual report entitled “Item 5 - Operating and Financial Review and Prospects” and our consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included elsewhere in this annual report.

The selected data presented below under the captions “Income Statement Data,” and “Balance Sheet Data” for, and as of the end of, each of the years in the five-year period ended December 31, 2012, are derived from the consolidated financial statements of Cellcom Israel Ltd. and subsidiaries, which financial statements have been audited by Somekh Chaikin, an independent registered public accounting firm and a member firm of KPMG International. The consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2011 and 2012, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2012, and the report thereon, are included elsewhere in this annual report. The selected data should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements, the related notes, and the independent registered public accounting firm’s report and the convenience translation of the consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2012 into U.S. dollars solely for the convenience of the reader.

The figures for the year 2008 have been adjusted to give the retrospective application effect of the change in our accounting policy with respect to subscriber acquisition and retention costs, applied in June 2009, retrospectively from January 1, 2007. See note 2.H to

Table of Contents

our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2009 (included in our annual report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2009).

On August 31, 2011, we completed the acquisition of 100% of the share capital of Netvision Ltd., or Netvision. Therefore, the consolidated results for the year ended December 31, 2011, included elsewhere in this annual report, include Netvision's results for the months of September through December 2011 only.

The information presented below under the caption "Other Data" contains information that part of it is not derived from the financial statements.

For your convenience, the following tables also contain U.S. dollar translations of the NIS amounts presented at December 31, 2012, translated using the rate of NIS 3.733 to \$1.00, the representative rate of exchange on December 31, 2012 as published by the Bank of Israel.

	2008	2009	Year Ended December 31,		2012	2012
			2010	2011(1)		(In US\$ millions)
	(In NIS millions, except per share data)					
Income Statement Data:						
Revenues	6,417	6,483	6,662	6,506	5,938	1,591
Cost of revenues	3,396	3,333	3,322	3,408	3,463	928
Selling and marketing expenses	701	716	756	990	865	232
General and administrative expenses	659	660	641	685	629	168
Other (income) expenses, net	(29)	6	5	1	(4)	(1)
Operating income	1,690	1,768	1,938	1,422	985	264
Financing expense, net	310	219	230	293	259	70
Income tax	391	367	417	304	195	52
Net income	989	1,182	1,291	825	531	142
Basic earnings per share	10.12	12.01	13.04	8.28	5.34	1.43
Diluted earnings per share	9.96	11.90	12.98	8.28	5.33	1.43
Weighted average ordinary shares used in calculation of basic earnings per share	97,721,339	98,432,757	98,979,544	99,476,671	99,481,487	
Weighted average ordinary shares used in calculation of diluted earnings per share	99,279,924	99,306,714	99,480,791	99,511,433	99,609,722	
Other Data:						
EBITDA(2)	2,482	2,529	2,667	2,167	1,753	470
Capital expenditures	633	663	735	520	537	144
Dividends declared per share	11.23	11.91	13.85	7.88	1.31	0.35
Net cash from operating activities	1,745	2,080	2,380	1,332	1,641	440
Net cash used in investing activities	(528)	(774)	(889)	(1,656)	(708)	(190)

Edgar Filing: Cellcom Israel Ltd. - Form 20-F

Net cash from (used in) financing activities	(1,853)	(678)	(1,861)	715	(439)	(118)
Cellular Subscribers (in thousands)(3)	3,187	3,292	3,394	3,349	3,199	
Churn rate of cellular subscribers(4)	18.9 %	19.6 %	20.5 %	25.1 %	31.5 %	
Cellular ARPU (in NIS)(5)	149	144	144	106	88	23.4
Balance Sheet Data:						
Cash	275	903	533	920	1,414	379
Working capital	461	1,254	924	679	1,232	330
Total assets	5,488	6,379	5,996	8,557	8,787	2,354
Total equity	390	374	341	187	500	134

Table of Contents

- (1) The consolidated financial results for the year 2011 include the results of Netvision, our wholly owned subsidiary, for the months September through December 2011. We consummated the acquisition of Netvision on August 31, 2011. For further details regarding the Netvision acquisition, see Item 4. A – "Acquisition of Netvision during 2011". For further details regarding the effect of Netvision's financial results on our consolidated financial results, see Item 5. A - "Operating and Financial Review and Prospects".
- (2) EBITDA is a non-IFRS measure and is defined as income before financing income (expenses), net; other income (expenses), net; income tax; depreciation and amortization and share based payments. We present EBITDA as a supplemental performance measure because we believe that it facilitates operating performance comparisons from period to period and company to company by backing out potential differences caused by variations in capital structure (most particularly affecting our interest expense given our significant debt), tax positions (such as the impact on periods or companies of changes in effective tax rates or net operating losses) the age of, and depreciation expenses associated with, fixed assets. EBITDA should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for operating income or other statement of operations or cash flow data prepared in accordance with IFRS as a measure of our profitability or liquidity. EBITDA does not take into account our debt service requirements and other commitments, including capital expenditures, and, accordingly, is not necessarily indicative of amounts that may be available for discretionary uses. In addition, EBITDA, as presented in this annual report, may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies due to differences in the way that these measures are calculated.

The following is a reconciliation of net income to EBITDA:

	2008	2009	Year Ended December 31,		2012	2012
			2010	2011		(In US\$ millions)
			(In NIS millions)			
Net income	989	1,182	1,291	825	531	142
Financing expense, net	310	219	230	293	259	70
Other expenses (income), net	(29)	6	5	1	(4)	(1)
Taxes on income	391	367	417	304	195	52
Depreciation and amortization	821	755	724	738	765	205
Share based payments	-	-	-	6	7	2
EBITDA	2,482	2,529	2,667	2,167	1,753	470

- (3) Cellular subscriber data refers to active subscribers. We use a six-month method of calculating our cellular subscriber base, which means that we deduct subscribers from our subscriber base after six months of no revenue generation and activity on our network by or in relation to both the post-paid and pre-paid subscriber. The six-month method is, to the best of our knowledge, consistent with the methodology used by other cellular providers in Israel. During the fourth quarter of 2011, we removed approximately 52,000 subscribers from our subscribers base, which included subscribers using our TDMA network who had not requested a transfer to our other networks following the shutdown of our TDMA network as of December 31, 2011, and subscribers who ceased using our services following a change to our policy which previously allowed subscribers to change from post to prepaid subscription as a result of the reduction of Early Termination Fees in the cellular market in early 2011. These changes affected other key performance indicators. We have not restated prior subscriber data to

conform with these changes. In the fourth quarter of 2012 we added a revenue generation criterion of at least NIS 1 of accumulated revenues over the six months period, for M2M (machine to machine) subscribers, which means that any M2M subscriber generating less than NIS 1 of accumulated revenues will not be counted as a subscriber. The addition of the NIS 1 generation criterion resulted in the removal of approximately 138,000 M2M subscribers from our subscriber base in the fourth quarter of 2012. We have not restated prior subscriber data to conform with this change. This change had an immaterial effect on our MOU and ARPU for 2012.

- (4) Churn rate is defined as the total number of voluntary and involuntary permanent deactivations of cellular subscribers in a given period expressed as a percentage of the number of cellular subscribers at the beginning of the period. Involuntary permanent deactivations relate to cellular subscribers who have failed to pay their arrears for the period of six consecutive months. Voluntary permanent deactivations relate to cellular subscribers who terminated their use of our cellular services. Churn rate data is excluding the above mentioned removal of subscribers.
- (5) Average monthly revenue per cellular subscriber (ARPU) is calculated by dividing revenues from cellular services for the period by the average number of cellular subscribers during the period and by dividing the result by the number of months in the period. Revenues from inbound roaming services and hosting services are included even though the number of cellular subscribers in the equation does not include the users of those roaming and hosting services. Inbound roaming services and hosting services are included because ARPU is meant to capture all service revenues generated by a cellular network. Revenues from sales of extended warranties are included because they represent recurring revenues generated by cellular subscribers, but revenues from sales of handsets (which for purposes of this report may include other types of cellular end user equipment, such as tablets), repair services and other services are not. We and industry analysts treat ARPU as a key performance indicator of a cellular operator because it is the closest meaningful measure of the contribution to service revenues made by an average subscriber.

We have set out below the calculation of cellular ARPU for each of the periods presented:

Table of Contents

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2012 (In US\$ millions)
	(In NIS millions, except number of subscribers and months)					
Revenues	6,417	6,483	6,662	6,506	5,938	1,591
less revenues from equipment sales	745	751	802	1,747	1,356	363
less other revenues*	135	162	124	484	1,125	302
Revenues used in cellular ARPU calculation	5,537	5,570	5,736	4,275	3,457	926
Average number of cellular subscribers	3,105,022	3,215,492	3,322,891	3,361,803	3,291,843	3,291,843
Months during period	12	12	12	12	12	12
Cellular ARPU (in NIS, per month)	149	144	144	106	88	23

* Other revenues include revenues from other communications services such as ISP, transmission services and local and international landline services and repair services.

Exchange Rate Information

The following table shows, for each of the months indicated, the high and low exchange rates between the NIS and the U.S. dollar, expressed as NIS per U.S. dollar and based upon the daily representative rate of exchange as published by the Bank of Israel:

Month	High (NIS)	Low (NIS)
September 2012	4.029	3.887
October 2012	3.895	3.792
November 2012	3.952	3.810
December 2012	3.835	3.726
January 2013	3.791	3.714
February 2013	3.733	3.663

On March 1, 2013 the daily representative rate of exchange between the NIS and U.S. dollar as published by the Bank of Israel was NIS 3.723 to \$1.00.

The following table shows, for periods indicated, the average exchange rate between the NIS and the U.S. dollar, expressed as NIS per U.S. dollar, calculated based on the average of the representative rates of exchange on the last day of each month during the relevant period as published by the Bank of Israel:

Year	Average (NIS)
2008	3.568
2009	3.927
2010	3.732
2011	3.582
2012	3.844

The effect of exchange rate fluctuations on our business and operations is discussed in “Item 5 - Operating and Financial Review and Prospects—Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk.”

B. CAPITALIZATION AND INDEBTEDNESS

Not applicable.

C. REASONS FOR THE OFFER AND USE OF PROCEEDS

Not applicable.

Table of Contents

D. RISK FACTORS

We believe that the occurrence of any one or some combination of the following factors could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Risks Related to our Business

We operate in a heavily regulated industry, which can harm our results of operations. In recent years, regulation in Israel has materially adversely affected our results.

A substantial part of our operations is subject to the Israeli Communications Law, 1982, the Israeli Wireless Telegraph Ordinance (New Version), 1972, the regulations promulgated thereunder and the licenses for the provision of different telecommunications services that we received from the Ministry of Communications in accordance with the Communications Law. The interpretation and implementation of the Communications Law, Wireless Telegraph Ordinance and regulations and the provisions of our general licenses, as well as our other licenses, are not certain and disagreements have arisen and may arise in the future between the Ministry of Communications and us. The Communications Law and regulations thereunder grant the Ministry of Communications extensive regulatory and supervisory authority with regard to our activities, as well as the authority to impose substantial sanctions in the event of a breach of our licenses or the applicable laws and regulations. In August 2012, the Communications Law was amended so as to set gradually increasing financial sanctions on communication operators, for breach of their licenses, the amount of which will be calculated as a percentage of the operator's income and based on the gravity of the breach. This amendment is expected to substantially increase the Ministry of Communications' usage of such sanctions. Substantial sanctions would negatively affect our results of operations and reputation. Further, in the event that we materially violate the terms of our licenses, the Ministry of Communications has the authority to revoke them.

Our operations are subject to the regulatory and supervisory authority of other Israeli regulators which also includes the authority to impose criminal and administrative sanctions against us including, among others, the Ministry of Environmental Protection; the Anti Trust Commissionaire; the Ministry of Justice and the Law, Information and Technology Authority at the Ministry of Justice - in charge of issues such as data bases and privacy protection; the Ministry of Industry and Commerce (including the Fair Trade Authority) in charge of labor and consumer protection. We have witnessed increased activity by some of these regulators in recent years and expect this trend to continue. Substantial sanctions or criminal charges by any of these regulators would negatively affect our results of operations and our reputation. Increased supervision and regulation of our activities could limit our freedom to conduct our business and harm our results of operations.

Our general cellular license is valid until February 2022. It may be extended for additional six-year periods upon our request to the Ministry of Communications and confirmation from the Ministry of Communications that we have complied with the provisions of our license and the applicable law, have continuously invested in the improvement of our service and network and have demonstrated the ability to do so in the future. Netvision's Internet Service Provider, or ISP, license and International Long Distance, or ILD, license, are valid until April 2017 and May 2025, respectively and may be extended for additional five and ten year periods, respectively, on terms similar to those provided in our cellular license. Our other licenses are also limited in time. Our licenses may not be

Table of Contents

extended when necessary, or, if extended, the extensions may be granted on terms that are not favorable to us. In addition, the Ministry of Communications has modified and may modify our licenses without our consent and in a manner that could limit our freedom to conduct our business and harm our results of operations. Possible changes to our licenses and legislation which would require us to change our pricing plans and information systems frequently or on a timetable we cannot meet, can increase the risk of noncompliance with our licenses or violation of such legislation and our exposure to lawsuits and regulatory sanctions.

Further, our business and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected by new legislation and decisions by our regulators that:

- reduce tariffs, or otherwise intervene in the pricing policies for our products and services, including by: intervening in pricing of bundles of services, roaming services, or prohibiting subscription fees for certain services. In 2011, interconnect tariffs were reduced, and early termination fees in plans which include a commitment to a predefined period, or Early Termination Fees, in cellular pricing plans were reduced to a negligible amount (subsequently annulled as of November 2011), have had an ongoing material adverse effect on our results of operations. In 2013, the amendment to the Communications Law prohibiting cellular operators from linking a cellular services transaction and handset purchase transaction, including by way of offering airtime rebates or refunds for the handsets, have come into effect, which is expected to adversely affect our end-user equipment revenues and our results of operations. Additional rules could further impact us. See "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview – Government Regulations – Tariff Supervision" and "Item 4. Information on The Company – B. Business Overview – Netvision" for additional details;
- set unfavorable national roaming tariffs or Mobile Virtual Network Operator, or MVNO, hosting tariffs or tariffs that are lower than the tariffs that we would otherwise be willing to offer. According to the Communications Law, the MOC is required to set the national roaming tariffs until February 1, 2012, however, to date, no such tariffs were set yet. See "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview - Government Regulations - Additional UMTS Operators";
- award new competitors certain benefits and leniencies not available to existing cellular operators, including through requiring us to allow usage of our network by such competitors and on unfavorable terms to us ; limit our ability to compete, including by limiting our ability to develop our network and by preferring new and/or small competitors in the allocation of frequencies, including those designated to the 4G of cellular services. The entry of additional competitors, specifically the launch of two new UMTS operators (using national roaming) in May 2012, had a material adverse effect on our results of operations and is expected to continue to adversely affect our results of operations in the future. See "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview" under "Competition" and under "Government Regulations – Mobile Virtual Network Operator" and "- Additional UMTS Operators" for additional details;
- impose new safety or health-related requirements;

Table of Contents

- impose additional restrictions or requirements with respect to the construction and operation of cell sites or the network, including in relation to the deployment of a 4G network and site sharing;
- impose restrictions on the provision of services or products we currently provide or regulate or otherwise intervene with the terms under which we advertise and market them and provide them to our subscribers, including in respect of existing agreements. In January 2013, the Ministry of Communications published a hearing proposing restrictions on the provision of roaming services, including default blockage of the data roaming service to be opened only upon the customer's request and automatic blockage of all roaming services to be reopened again upon such request each time the customer reaches a certain usage threshold. The hearing further proposed applying certain notification procedures;
 - limit or otherwise intervene with the services or products that we may sell;
 - set higher service standards;
- impose the laws and regulations applicable to charge cards on the clearing services we provide to third party providers, including liability for misuse and liability imposed on internet online and telephonic transactions. The Israeli Attorney General has opined before two separate tribunals (which have not yet ruled on the matter) that such legislation applies to the clearing services we provide to our third party providers;
- impose a stricter policy with respect to privacy protection, such as with regard to data protection, collection, amelioration or usage of data for marketing activities. An initial proposal of the Information and Technology Authority regarding cellular operators received in March 2012, proposes imposing strict limitations on such collection and usage, including the requirement to receive a positive consent of the customer to do so (other than with regards to basic data). Further, the Israeli Attorney General filed a request to apply such stricter policy on us with the Israeli court of uniform contracts; or
- impose structural or operational separation between our and Netvision's operations (partial or full) or between the different services within each company or otherwise limit our ability to offer bundles of services. See "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview - Government Regulations – Long Distance Services; or set unfavorable regulation regarding the landline wholesale market - see "Item 4. Information on The Company – B. Business Overview – Competition" and "Long Distance Services".

See “Item 4. Information on the Company – B – Business Overview – Government Regulations – Our Principal License” and “Other Licenses”.

If we fail to compensate for lost revenues, increased expenses or additional investments resulting from past or future legislative or regulatory changes with alternative sources of income or otherwise, our results of operations may be materially adversely affected.

Table of Contents

We may not be able to obtain permits to construct and operate cell sites.

We depend on our network of cell sites to maintain and enhance network coverage for our subscribers. In addition, where necessary, we provide certain subscribers with bi-directional amplifiers, also known as “repeaters,” to remedy weak signal reception in indoor locations. Some of these repeaters are located outdoors on rooftops. We also deploy and operate microwave sites as part of our transmission network. The construction and operation of these various facilities are highly regulated and require us to obtain various consents and permits. See “Item 4.B – Business Overview - Government Regulations - Permits for Cell Site Construction” for additional details.

We have experienced difficulties in obtaining some of these consents and permits, particularly in obtaining building permits for cell sites from local planning and building authorities. As of December 31, 2012, we operated a small portion of our cell sites without building permits or applicable exemptions. Although we are in the process of seeking to obtain building permits or to modify our cell sites in order to satisfy applicable exemptions, we may not be able to obtain all the necessary permits or make the necessary modifications.

Approximately 30.8% of our cell sites operate without building permits in reliance on an exemption from the requirement to obtain a building permit, mainly for radio access devices. Our reliance on the exemption for radio access devices had been challenged and is currently awaiting ruling by the Israeli Supreme Court. Under an interim order issued by the Supreme Court in September 2010, we are unable to further construct radio access devices in cellular networks in reliance on the exemption, until regulations limiting our reliance on the exemption are enacted or a different decision by the court is made. A further decision of the Supreme Court in February 2011, states that the order will not apply to the replacement of existing radio access devices under certain conditions. In September 2011, the interim order was relaxed to allow two new UMTS operators, Hot Mobile Ltd. (previously Mirs Communications Ltd. or Mirs), or Hot Mobile, and Golan Telecom Ltd., or Golan, to construct radio access devices in reliance on the exemption until July 31, 2012 and was thereafter extended several times until September 30, 2013. Our application to relax the interim order against us was denied.

Additionally, in November 2008, the District Court of Central Region, in its capacity as court of appeals, ruled that the exemption does not apply to radio access devices, if the rooftop, on which those devices are located, is at the same level as a residence or other building that is regularly frequented by people.

Following the Attorney General's conclusion that the application of the exemption does not balance properly the different interests involved and therefore cannot continue unchanged, the Israeli Minister of Interior Affairs submitted draft regulations for approval by the Economy Committee of the Israeli Parliament in March 2010. The draft regulations include significant limitations on the ability to construct radio access devices based on the exemption, which will render the construction of radio access devices based on the exemption practically impossible.

Other appeals relating to the exemption, including as to the requirement to obtain an extraordinary usage permit and other similar challenges, as well as other claims asserting that those cell sites and other facilities do not meet other legal requirements continue, are still under consideration in the courts.

Table of Contents

In addition, we may be operating a significant number of our cell sites in a manner that is not fully compatible with the building permits issued for these cell sites which may, in some cases, also constitute grounds for termination of their lease agreements or claims for breach of such agreements. Our rooftop microwave sites and repeaters operate in reliance upon an exemption from the requirement to obtain a building permit. Substantially all of our outdoor microwave sites are rooftops. It is unclear whether other types of repeaters require a building permit.

An annulment of or inability to rely on or substantial limitation of the exemption could adversely affect our existing networks and networks build-out, particularly given the objection of some local planning and building authorities to grant due permits where required. This could have a negative impact on our ability to obtain environmental permits for these sites, and could negatively affect our ability to continue to market our products and services effectively. This may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition. See "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview - Government Regulations— Permits for Cell Site Construction" for additional details regarding the exemption.

Operation of a cell site or other facility without a building permit or not in accordance with the permit or other legal requirements may result in the issuance of a demolition order for the cell site or other facility or the bringing of criminal charges against us and our officers and directors. Certain of our cell sites have been subject to demolition orders. In addition, criminal charges have been brought against us and our officers and directors in connection with cell sites that were alleged to have been constructed or used without the required permits or not in accordance with the permits granted. As of December 31, 2012, 10 criminal and administrative proceedings are outstanding; a demolition order has been granted with respect to four cell sites while the remaining six proceedings are pending further litigation.

Pursuant to the Israeli Non-Ionizing Radiation Law, 2006, the granting or renewal of an operating permit by the Commissioner of Environmental Radiation at the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Israel, or Commissioner, for a cell site or other facility is subject to the receipt of a building permit or the facility being exempt from the requirement to obtain a building permit. Should we fail to obtain building permits for our cell sites or other facilities, including in the event that our reliance upon an exemption from the requirement to obtain building permits for these cell sites and other facilities is found invalid, the Commissioner will not grant or renew our operating permits for those cell sites and other facilities. Since October 2007, the Commissioner took the position that he will not grant or renew operating permits to radio access devices, where the local planning and building committee's engineer objected to our reliance upon the said exemption for radio access devices.

For reasons not related to radiation hazards, but due to building and planning issues we have received partial environmental permits for single cell sites. Operating a cell site or a facility without an operating permit could subject us and our officers and directors to criminal, administrative and civil liability.

The Non-Ionizing Radiation Law further grants the Commissioner authority to issue eviction orders if a cell site or other facility operates in conflict with its permit, and it imposes criminal sanctions on a company and its directors and officers for violations of the law. Failure to comply with the Non-Ionizing Radiation Law or the terms of a permit can lead to

Table of Contents

revocation or suspension of the permit, as well as to withholding the grant of permits to additional cell sites of that operator.

Should any of our officers or directors be found guilty of an offence, although this has not occurred to date, they may face monetary penalties and a term of imprisonment. Our cell sites may be the subject of demolition orders, we may be required to relocate cell sites to less favorable locations or stop operation of cell sites, which could negatively affect the extent, quality and capacity of our network coverage, all of which may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Certain proposed amendments to the Non-Ionizing Radiation Law and Regulations which have passed the preliminary stages of enactment, propose setting additional restrictions in relation to the operation of cell sites and other facilities, such as setting larger distance requirements between cell sites locations and residences or certain institutions. If such changes are subsequently adopted, they will, among other things, limit our ability to construct new cell sites (and if applied to existing cell sites, they will also limit our ability to renew operating permits for many of our existing cell sites), adversely affect our existing networks and networks build out, specifically in urban areas, and could adversely affect our results of operations. See "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview - Government Regulations— Permits for Cell Site Construction" for an additional amendment proposing to cancel the requirement to obtain the Minister of Communications' approval to the Non-Ionizing Radiation Regulations, where such regulations may have a substantial and direct effect on the monetary burden imposed on the communications market.

The Israeli National Zoning Plan 36, or the Plan, which regulates cell site construction and operation is in the process of being changed. Current proposed changes impose additional restrictions and requirements on the construction and operation of cell sites. In June 2010, the proposed changes were approved by the Israeli National Council for Planning and Building and submitted for the approval of the Government of Israel. If the proposed changes are approved by the Israeli Government they will harm our ability to construct new cell sites, make the process of obtaining building permits for the construction and operation of cell sites more cumbersome and costly, could adversely affect our existing network and may delay the future deployment of our network and could negatively affect the extent, quality and capacity of our network coverage and our ability to continue to market our products and services effectively, all of which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Several local planning and building authorities are claiming that Israeli cellular operators may not receive building permits, in reliance on the current Plan, for cell sites operating in frequencies not specifically detailed in the frequencies charts attached to the Plan. In a number of cases, these authorities have refused to provide a building permit for such new cell sites, arguing that the Plan does not apply to such cell sites and that building permits for such cell sites should be sought through other processes (which are longer and cumbersome), such as an application for extraordinary usage or under existing local specific zoning plans. Since June 2002, following the approval of the Plan, building permits for our cell sites (where required) have been issued in reliance on the Plan. The current proposed draft amendment to the Plan covers all new cell sites requiring a building permit, independently of the frequencies in which they operate. Most of our cell sites and many cell sites operated by other operators also operate in frequencies not specifically detailed in the Plan.

Table of Contents

If we are unable to obtain or rely on exemptions from obtaining or to renew building or other consents and permits for our existing cell sites or other facilities, we will be required to demolish or relocate these cell sites and facilities. Our inability to relocate sites or other facilities in a timely manner or to construct and operate new sites or other facilities (if we are unable to obtain the necessary consents and permits or rely on the exemption from the requirement to obtain a building permit), could adversely affect our existing network, result in the loss of subscribers, prevent us from meeting the network coverage and quality requirements contained in our license (which may lead to its revocation) and adversely impact our network build-out, all of which may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

In July 2011, an inter-ministry team of the Ministries of Communications, Finance, Interior, Environmental Protection and the Anti-Trust Commissionaire, published its recommendations regarding cell site sharing. The recommendations include compulsory cell sites sharing in the construction of new cell sites or for modification to existing cell sites which require a building permit (the Ministry of Communications may exempt sharing for reasons related to technological or engineering difficulties), while providing preference and leniencies to the new UMTS operators, as well as the reduction of the existing non shared cell sites quantity. These recommendations or similar recommendations, if enacted, will further burden the construction of new cell sites and modifications to existing cell sites, and may adversely affect our existing cellular network, the network build-out and our results of operations.

We may be required to indemnify certain local planning and building committees in respect of claims against them.

Under the Israeli Planning and Building Law, 1965, by approving a building plan, local planning and building committees may be held liable to compensate for depreciation of properties included in or neighboring the approved plan.

In January 2006, the law was amended to require an applicant, as a precondition to obtaining a cell site construction permit from a planning and building committee, to provide a letter to the committee indemnifying it for possible depreciation claims. As of December 31, 2012, we have provided approximately 349 indemnification letters to local planning and building committees. Calls upon our indemnification letters may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. We may also decide to demolish or relocate existing cell sites to less favorable locations and to construct new cell sites in alternative, less suitable locations or not at all, due to the obligation to provide indemnification. As a result, our existing service may be impaired or the expansion of our network coverage could be limited.

In addition, local planning and building committees have sought to join cellular operators, including us, as defendants in depreciation claims made against them even though indemnification letters were not provided. We have been joined as defendants in a small number of cases.

In February 2007, the Israeli Minister of Interior Affairs extended the limitation period within which depreciation claims may be brought under the Israeli Planning and Building Law from three years from approval of a building plan, to the later of one year from receiving a building permit for a cell site under National Zoning Plan 36 and six months from the construction of a cell site. The Minister retains the general authority to extend such period

Table of Contents

further. This extension of the limitation period increases our potential exposure to depreciation claims. In addition, should the Planning and Building Law be construed or amended to allow a longer period of limitation for depreciation claims than the current limitation period set in that law, our potential exposure to depreciation claims would increase.

Alleged health risks relating to non-ionizing radiation generated from cell sites and cellular telecommunications devices may harm our prospects.

Handsets, accessories and various types of cell sites are known to be sources of non-ionizing radiation emissions and are the subject of a public debate and growing concern in Israel. While, to the best of our knowledge, the handsets that we market comply with the applicable legislation that relate to acceptable “specific absorption rate,” or SAR, levels, we rely on the SAR levels published by the manufacturers of these handsets and do not perform independent inspections of the SAR levels of these handsets. As the manufacturers’ approvals refer to a prototype handset, we have no information as to the actual level of SAR of the handsets throughout the lifecycle of the handsets, including in the case of handset repair. See also “Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview - Government Regulations - Handsets”. In July 2008, the Israeli Ministry of Health published recommendations to take precautionary measures when using cellular handsets, which has increased the concerns of the Israeli public. In May 2011, the International Agency for Research on Cancer, an agency of the World Health Organization, or WHO, issued a press release classifying radiofrequency electromagnetic fields as possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B), based on an increased risk for glioma, a malignant type of brain cancer, associated with wireless phone use. In June 2011, the WHO publication noted that to date, no adverse health effects have been established as being caused by mobile phone use and while an increased risk of brain tumors is not established, the increasing use of mobile phones and the lack of data for mobile phone use over time periods longer than 15 years warrant further research of mobile phone use and brain cancer risk, particularly given recent popular use by younger people with potentially longer periods of exposure. Several bills, aimed at increasing awareness of the possible risks of cellular phones usage, reducing usage thereof and introducing precautionary measures are awaiting deliberation by the Israeli Parliament. In January 2013, the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Environmental Protection announced the establishment of a non-ionizing radiation information center that will provide information to the public, issue warnings and guidelines for reducing exposure to risks in general and specifically in regards to sensitive populations and perform and coordinate research in that regard. In March 2013, Partner has reportedly agreed to pay NIS 400 thousand to a customer claiming his cancer was caused by cellular phone usage (while disclaiming any responsibility).

Health concerns regarding cell sites have already caused us difficulties in obtaining permits for cell site construction and obtaining or renewing leases for cell sites and even resulted in unlawful sabotage of a small number of cell sites and have further prompted proposed legislation aimed at increasing the minimum distance permitted between cell sites and certain institutions. See "We may not be able to obtain permits to construct and operate cell sites" above for additional details. In July 2009, the Ministries of Interior Affairs and Environmental Protection adopted a position (as part of the recommendations made by an inter-ministry committee established to examine the appropriateness of future application of the exemption from obtaining building permits for radio access devices) that, with respect to radiation safety, cell sites constructed pursuant to a building permit are preferable to radio access devices and that utilizing a cellular network to provide advanced services which can be provided through a landline network, is unjustified in light of the preventive care principle set forth in the Israeli Non-Ionizing Radiation Law. Further, in May 2012, the positions of the Ministries of Communications, Health and Environmental Protection in relation to the

Table of Contents

various aspects of the provision of 4G services in Israel were published, in response to a petition to hold a public debate regarding 4G service in Israel and prevent 4G spectrum allocation until such debate is held. The Ministries held the position that 4G services would involve some increase in the level of non-ionizing radiation the public will be exposed to, and that in order to minimize such increase 4G deployment should be based on current cell sites, additional outdoor and indoor small cell sites, and whenever possible, should use wireline infrastructure so that data traffic shall be carried mostly through wirelines and not cellular infrastructure. The adoption of the inter-ministry team's recommendations, regarding cell site sharing (see "We may not be able to obtain permits to construct and operate cell sites" above for additional details), is a precondition for the deployment of 4G infrastructure. The Ministry of Health further opined that in light of the preventive precaution principle and in order to reduce as much as possible the alleged health risks, 4G usages should be predefined and additional usage, where a landline alternative is available, should be conditioned on further discussion.

If health concerns regarding non-ionizing radiation increase further, or if adverse findings in studies of non-ionizing radiation are published or if non-ionizing radiation levels are found to be higher than the standards set for handsets and cell sites, we may be subject to health-related claims for substantial sums; consumers may be discouraged from using cellular handsets and regulators may impose additional restrictions on the construction and operation of cell sites or handset usage. As a result, we may experience increased difficulty in constructing and operating cell sites and obtaining leases for new cell site locations or renewing leases for existing locations (although so far, in total we have experienced renewal problems with approximately 7% of our cell site leases each year); we may be exposed to property depreciation claims; and we may lose revenues due to decreasing usage of our services; we may be subject to increased regulatory costs. We have not obtained insurance for these potential claims. See note 29 to our consolidated financial report for 2012, included elsewhere in this annual report for additional details on two purported class actions filed against us in that respect (after a third one was dismissed without prejudice). An additional purported class action which was filed against us for not obtaining such insurance was subsequently dismissed without prejudice. An adverse outcome or settlement of any health-related litigation against us or any other provider of cellular services (such as the abovementioned reported payment Partner agreed to pay) could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition or prospects.

We face intense competition in all aspects of our business

The Israeli cellular telephone market is highly competitive. We compete for subscribers with four other mobile network operators, or MNOs, and three MVNO operators. While we enjoy the largest subscriber market share, estimated to be 31.9% as of December 31, 2012, two of our competitors, Partner and Pelephone, enjoy estimated market shares of 29.5% and 28% respectively, with Hot Mobile estimated to have a market share of 7.6%, Golan estimated to have a market share of 1.8% and the MVNO operators together, with an estimated market share of approximately 1.2%. The current competitive pressure in the Israeli cellular market results primarily from the entry into the market of additional competitors, specifically the launch of two new UMTS operators in May 2012 - Hot Mobile and Golan, using national roaming on Pelephone's and our networks (respectively) and aiming to win market share by introducing packages which included unlimited usage of certain services, or Unlimited Packages, at significantly lower tariffs than market level at that time. Given the highly penetrated state of the market, this has further increased the already intense competition characterizing the Israeli cellular market before their entry substantially accelerated price erosion, materially increased churn rate, increased subscriber acquisition

Table of Contents

and retention costs due to materially increased gross recruitment of subscribers and led to a material decrease in revenues and profitability for us and other MNOs. Previous regulatory and other changes, which contributed to the intensified competition and increased price erosion during 2011, include the reduction of Early Termination Fees in February 2011 and the formation of communications groups. The intensified competition led to the offering of bundles of services and Unlimited Packages, at lower average revenue per minute, or ARPU, by all competitors. In addition, regulatory changes leading to the entry of additional competitors to the handset market, increased competition in that market significantly and resulted in a decrease in the sale of handsets by us. See also "Item 4. Information on the Company - B. Business Overview" under "The Telecommunications Industry in Israel", under "Competition" and under "Government Regulations – Mobile Virtual Network Operator" and "Additional UMTS Operators". Should these trends continue to characterize the communications market they shall continue to affect the level of competition and our results of operations. Moreover, should any of them intensify or should any of the following developments materialize in our market, the level of competition may increase even further and may result in a further increase in the churn rate, loss of market share, increased subscriber acquisition and retention costs, further price erosion and ultimately reduced profitability for us:

- tariffs decreasing even further. The launch of Hot Mobile and Golan's UMTS operation in May 2012, without having to first invest in building their own network and with prices significantly lower than market level at that time, aiming to win market share in the private sector as quickly as possible (as their commitment to pay the license fee which amounts to approximately NIS 705 and 360 million, respectively, shall be reduced to an immaterial amount, and the bank guarantee guarantying their commitment will be returned to them, if they each gain a 7% market share in the private sector within 5 years), caused a substantial decrease of prices made by all competitors, including us. As a result and in an attempt to increase customers acquisition rate and gain market share, Golan and Hot Mobile have offered even lower tariffs and free of charge Unlimited Packages for a limited period of time (up to four months), which were matched by other operators in the fourth quarter of 2012 and the beginning of 2013. This has led to a materially increased churn rate, price erosion (including due to a substantial transfer of prepaid customers to postpaid pricing plans) and loss of revenues and profitability to us. If tariffs continue to decrease or if services continue to be offered free of charge, those consequences could continue and result in further loss of market share and loss of revenues and profitability. See "Item 4. Information on The Company –B. Business Overview – Competition" for additional details.
- annulment or further relaxation of the structural separation imposed on each of the Bezeq and Hot groups (Bezeq being the incumbent landline operator and Hot the incumbent multichannel television provider, both monopolies in their incumbent market and the only groups owning full landline infrastructure in Israel and offering internet infrastructure services to ISP operators, as well as to end-users), more so if not coupled with an effective wholesale landline market, as it will provide these groups a competitive advantage in the sale of bundles of services, including cellular services, and allow them to make more competitive offers than the ones we will be able to make, for example, by cross subsidizing with other services in which they have the capacity to

Table of Contents

monopolize the market, which may result in a loss of market share by us in the different communications markets in which we operate, including the cellular market. The formation of communications groups in Israel with the regulatory changes already relaxing the structural separation imposed on each of the Bezeq and Hot groups allowed each of the groups to offer a bundle of services. With the competitive focus shifting from individual services to services to families, our dependence on the formation of an effective landline wholesale market, to allow us to include television and internet infrastructure in our offer and be competitive, has been accentuated. A policy paper in relation to the wholesale market of landline services in Israel, published by the Minister of Communications in May 2012, called for the annulment of certain structural limitations currently imposed on the Bezeq and Hot groups (and the consideration of annulling or relaxing others) after an agreement regarding a landline wholesale market is executed between Bezeq or Hot and another operator which has a significant market share, as well as the replacement of Bezeq's regulated fixed tariffs with maximum tariffs. We are negotiating the terms of such wholesale agreement with Bezeq. Partner has already reached some understandings with Bezeq and in February 2013, Xfone Communications, an ILD operator that does not have a significant market share, announced entering a wholesale agreement with Bezeq. Bezeq currently offers a bundle of services, including cellular services, under certain limitations. The bundle of services currently offered by Hot does not include cellular services (other than a bundle of cellular services with ISP services recently offered by its subsidiaries Hot Mobile and Hot-Net) although the Ministry of Communications has already allowed Hot and Hot Mobile to sell and market each other's services and exchange information in 2011 and was considering to annul the structural limitations between them, regardless of the wholesale market agreement. The annulment of structural limitations will allow Bezeq and Hot to offer bundles of services, including cellular services, without limitation and may allow them to take advantage of their nationwide presence to market and sell attractive offers. Bundle offerings have accelerated and are expected to accelerate price erosion in each of the services included. With each of the groups having an interest not to erode the prices of its core business, but rather that of its competitors, such erosion is especially expected in those services which are not the core services of the Bezeq and Hot groups. See "Item 4. Information on The Company –B. Business Overview – The Communications Market in Israel - Communications Groups – Structural Separation", "Competition", "Nevision - ISP Business - Competition" and "Nevision - Telephony Business – Competition" for additional details.

- continued transfer of subscribers to Unlimited Packages with lower ARPU, as it increases price erosion and reduces revenues and profitability for us as well as encourages significantly increased usage of the services included therein. Increased data traffic on our network requires us to make substantial investments in the upgrade of our networks to sustain the demand. See also "We may be adversely affected by the significant technological and other changes in the cellular communications industry" below.
- continued increased competition in the handsets market. Regulatory changes encouraging the entry of additional players to this market, coupled with the prohibition on any linkage between a cellular services transaction and handsets purchase transaction, resulted in increased competition and substantially reduced handset sales for us. Additional prohibition on such linkage, forbidding the offering of airtime rebates or refunds for the handsets, as of

Table of Contents

January 1, 2013, reduces further our contact points and therefore sale opportunities with our customers as well as reduces their connection to us. This, together with the increased handset purchases elsewhere, may result not only in decreased handset sales, revenues and profitability to us, but may also increase churn and adversely affect our cellular services results of operations. See "Item 4. Information on The Company –B. Business Overview – Competition" for additional details.

- increased usage of competing technologies, applications and services, allowing usage of our network with or without an operator, such as VoC or voice over IP, or VoIP or other technologies, such as WiFi, more so following the increased usage of smart phones, tablets and laptops. Under an amendment to the Communications Law enacted in December 2010, any limitation or blocking of internet based services or applications is forbidden, including by differentiating pricing.
- Pursuant to the Israeli Restrictive Trade Practices Law, 1988, if the Anti Trust Commissionaire decides that the Israeli cellular market is oligopolistic, the Director General will have the authority to give instructions to all or some of the participants in our market, in order, among others, to maintain or increase the competition level among the participants, including the authority to issue orders to remove or to ease entry or transfer barriers, to cease a participant's activity, or otherwise regulate the activities of the market.

We are facing substantial organizational and personnel changes

In light of the dramatic changes in our market during 2012 (see "-We face intense competition in all aspects of our business" above and "Item 4. Information on the Company - B. Business Overview –Competition", for additional details) which led to a decrease in our net income, operating profit and EBITDA by 35.6%, 30.7% and 19.1%, respectively, in comparison to 2011, we have made substantial changes in order to adjust our group's operations to the changing market conditions and mitigate the adverse effects. The changes implemented included aggressive reduction of head count, reduction and integration of units, adjustment of procedures, reduction of expenses and investments (see "Item 4. Information on the Company – A. History and Development of the Company – 2012: a year of radical adverse changes", for additional details). Additional substantial organizational and personnel changes are required in order for us to continue our efforts to mitigate the progressing adverse effects of the changing market conditions. Although to date, those measures did not have a negative effect on our operations, such major changes carry risks and may result in loss of the group's and specifically management's focus, loss of knowledge, dissatisfaction of our employees, and an adverse impact on our services and customer service quality, all of which may lead to damage to our reputation, increased churn by our customers and loss of market share, loss of revenues and reduced profitability for us.

We could be subject to legal claims due to the inability of our information systems to fully support our pricing plans.

In order to attract and retain the maximum number of subscribers in our highly competitive market, we design specific pricing plans to suit the various preferences of our types of subscribers such as individuals, families or businesses. We require sophisticated information systems to accurately record subscriber usage pursuant to the particular terms of each subscriber's plan as well as accurate database management and operation of a very large

Table of Contents

number of pricing plans. From time to time, we have detected some discrepancies between certain pricing plans and the information processed by our internal information systems, such as applying an incorrect rebate or applying an incorrect tariff to a service resulting in a higher charge. We have invested substantial resources to refine and improve our information and control systems and ensure that our new pricing plans are appropriately processed by our information systems; we have also taken steps to remedy the identified discrepancies and have established reserves where the discrepancies are quantifiable. Despite our substantial investments, we may experience discrepancies in the future due to the multiplicity of our plans, the frequent changes to our licenses and relevant legislation governing our pricing plans and the scope of the processing tasks. Following our merger with Netvision and the offering of bundles of services of both companies, billing our customers involves information systems of both companies and increases the possibility of errors. Further, while we invest substantial efforts in monitoring our employees and third-party distributors and dealers that market our services, it is possible that some of our employees, distributors or dealers may offer terms and make (or fail to make) representations to existing and prospective subscribers that do not fully conform to applicable law, our licenses or the terms of our pricing plans. As a result of these discrepancies, we may be subject to subscribers' claims, including class action claims, and substantial sanctions for breach of our licenses or the applicable laws and regulations that may materially adversely affect our results of operations. Further, frequent and multiple changes to our general license and relevant legislation require ongoing changes to our operations, pricing plans and supporting information systems. Such changes increase the risk that our employees, distributors and dealers and our information systems will not fully support such changes. As of January 1, 2013, each discrepancy from the customer's pricing plan, remedied after the customer complained, shall award the customer with predefined damages in an insignificant amount, but may aggregate to substantial amounts if paid to numerous customers on multiple occasions.

We are exposed to, and currently are engaged in, a variety of legal proceedings, including class action lawsuits.

We provide services to millions of subscribers on a daily basis. As a result of the scope and magnitude of our operations we are subject to the risk of a large number of lawsuits, including class action suits by consumers and consumer organizations, with respect to billing and other practices, such as customer care practices, marketing, including mass media marketing as well as sending commercial messages to customers, data collection and usage practices, offering practices of products and services, including third parties' products and services. These actions are costly to defend and could result in significant judgments against us. Recent years were characterized by a substantial increase in the number of requests for certification of class actions filed and approved in Israel. In December 2011, a class action was decided against us (we appealed the decision to the Supreme Court in January 2012 and the execution of the judgment was stayed until the appeal is decided). The number of purported class actions filed against us in the last three years amounts to over 50% of all purported class actions filed against us since our inception, thereby increasing our legal exposure and our legal costs in defending against such suits, which as a result may materially and adversely affect our financial results. This trend is expected to continue, encouraged also by amendments to the Consumer Protection Law, stricter policy by regulators, amendments to the Communications Law such as regulating "spam" as well as the growing tendency of adopting comprehensive and burdensome regulation for the telecommunications market. Currently, we are engaged in dozens of purported class action suits as a defendant, many of which are for substantial amounts. Should these requests to certify lawsuits against us as

Table of Contents

class actions are approved and succeed, this may have a material adverse affect on our financial results. For a summary of certain material legal proceedings against us, see “Item 8 – Financial Information - A. Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information –Legal Proceedings”.

We employ thousands of employees and are therefore subject to the risk of employee lawsuits, including class action suits by employees.

We are subject to the risk of intellectual property rights claims against us, including in relation to music, music-related or other content services we purchase from third party content providers. These claims may require us to initiate or defend protracted and costly litigation, regardless of the merits of these claims. If any of these claims succeed, we may be forced to pay damages or may be required to obtain licenses for the infringing product or service. If we cannot obtain all necessary licenses on commercially reasonable terms, we may be forced to stop using or selling the products and services.

We rely on interconnecting telecommunications providers and could be adversely affected if these providers fail to provide these services without disruption and on a consistent basis.

Our ability to provide commercially viable telephone services depends upon our ability to interconnect with the telecommunications networks of landline, cellular telephone and international operators in Israel in order to complete calls between our subscribers and parties on a landline or other cellular telephone network, as well as third parties abroad. All landline, cellular telephone and international operators in Israel are required to provide interconnection to, and not to discriminate against, any other licensed telecommunications operator in Israel. We have no control over the quality and timing of the investment and maintenance activities that are necessary for these entities to provide us with interconnection to their respective telecommunications networks. The implementation of number portability requires us to rely further on other providers, since our ability to implement number portability, provide our services and our basic ability to port numbers between operators are dependent on the manner of number portability implementation by interconnecting local operators. The failure of these or other telecommunications providers to provide reliable interconnections to us on a consistent basis could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Our operations are dependent on complex technology and information systems.

Our operations are dependent on a number of complex technological systems. The offering of bundles of services by us and Netvision, following our merger, increased the number of complex technological systems involved in providing service to our customers. The occurrence of malfunctions in such complex and ever changing and expanding systems is inevitable. A malfunction in any of our systems which severely impacts our ability to provide products and services to our customers, may result in loss of revenues to us, may adversely impact our brand perception and expose us to legal claims, all of which may adversely affect our results of operations. In December 2010 we suffered a major network malfunction, following which we decided to grant our subscribers a substantial refund and were also sued for substantial amounts of purported damages. For additional details regarding the lawsuits filed against us in that regard see note 29 to our consolidated financial report for 2012 included elsewhere in this annual report.

Table of Contents

Our operations are dependant on various information systems. The unauthorized entry to or disruption of operation of these information systems, including due to cyber attacks, may result in damage to us and our customers. Such damages could include our inability to provide certain services without disruptions, if at all, our inability to bill for services rendered or loss of data to us and our customers, all of which may expose us to legal claims and liabilities.

There are certain restrictions in our licenses relating to the ownership of our shares.

Our cellular license restricts ownership of our ordinary shares and who can serve as our directors as follows:

- our founding shareholder, Discount Investment Corporation Ltd., or DIC (or its transferee or transferees, if approved in advance by the Ministry of Communications as “founding shareholders”), must own at least 26% of each of our means of control;
- Israeli citizens and residents among our founding shareholders (or their approved transferees) must own at least 20% of our outstanding share capital and each of our other means of control (DIC has agreed to comply with this requirement);
 - a majority of our directors must be Israeli citizens and residents;
- at least 20% of our directors must be appointed by Israeli citizens and residents among our founding shareholders; and
- we are required to have a committee of our Board of Directors that deals with matters relating to state security, which must be comprised of at least four directors (including an external director) having the requisite security clearance by Israel’s General Security Service.

If these requirements are not complied with, we could be found to be in breach of our license and our license could be changed, suspended or revoked.

In addition, our license provides that, without the approval of the Ministry of Communications, no person may acquire or dispose of shares representing 10% or more of our outstanding share capital. Further, our directors and officers and any holder of ordinary shares representing 5% or more of our outstanding share capital may not own 5% or more of Bezeq or any of our competitors or serve as a director or officer of such a company, subject to certain exceptions which require the prior approval of the Ministry of Communications.

To ensure that an unauthorized acquisition of our shares would not jeopardize our license, our articles of association provide that any shares acquired without approval required under our license will not be entitled to voting rights.

If our service is to be determined by the Israeli Government to be an “essential service”, the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Communications could impose additional limitations including a heightened requirement of Israeli ownership of our ordinary shares.

Although our articles of association contain certain provisions that are aimed at reducing the risk that holdings or transfers of our ordinary shares will contravene our license,

Table of Contents

we cannot entirely control these and other matters required by our license, the violation of which could be a basis for suspending or revoking our license. Our other licenses and Netvision's licenses contain similar restrictions, with the Ministry of Communications' approval required for the transfer of shares representing 5% or more of our (or Netvision, as the case may be) outstanding share capital. See also "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview – Government Regulations Our Principal License" and "Other Licenses" and "Item 4. Information on The Company – B. Business Overview – Netvision".

We may be adversely affected by the significant technological and other changes in the cellular communications industry.

The telecommunications market is known for rapid and significant technological changes and requires ongoing investments in advanced technologies in order to remain competitive. In recent years we have witnessed a growing demand for Internet, content and data through advanced third generation cellular phones, smartphones, modems, tablets and other devices using cellular data that resulted in a rapid growth of data traffic on cellular networks and required cellular operators to upgrade their networks to accord such demand. Transfer of subscribers to Unlimited Packages of services, MVNO hosting services and national roaming on our network, have contributed to the substantially growing demand for data traffic on our network, as well as to voice and text messages. We estimate that data traffic will grow even faster in the future and some operators have taken steps aimed at reducing data usage by their subscribers, including by transferring traffic to free alternative networks. To answer the growing demand for cellular data traffic, we would be required, among others, to continue our investment in upgrading both our cellular and our transmission network as well as invest in advanced technologies such as 4G cellular technologies (Long Term Evolution, or LTE), which will allow larger capacity and higher data speed rates. Although we are constantly upgrading our networks and have been building our LTE readiness, should we decide to build an LTE network, it would require additional substantial investments and the allocation of frequencies for an LTE network. Such allocation to us is not guaranteed, when required or at all (including in light of prior preference given by the Ministry of Communications to new and small competitors in the allocation of additional UMTS frequencies at the September 2010 tender and the limited amount of available frequencies as well as the uncertainties relating to the government's position with respect to the provision of 4G services in Israel), and there is no certainty as to the cost of frequencies, if and when allocated to us. Inability to receive additional frequencies in a timely manner to meet our needs or at all and specifically if LTE frequencies are allocated to our competitors and not to us or allocated to us under less favorable terms than to our competitors could impair our ability to compete and may require us to cease offering certain products and/or services we currently offer and/or change their terms and conditions and/or make substantial unplanned investments, which may have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

If we cannot obtain or maintain favorable roaming arrangements, our services may be less attractive or less profitable.

We rely on agreements to provide roaming capabilities to our subscribers in many areas outside Israel. As of December 31, 2012, we had roaming arrangements with 545 cellular providers in 179 countries around the world. However, we cannot control the quality of the service that they provide and it may be inferior to the quality of service that we provide. Equally, our subscribers may not be able to use some of the advanced features that they enjoy when making calls on our network. Some of our competitors may be able to obtain lower roaming rates than we do because they may have larger call volumes. If our

Table of Contents

competitors' providers can deliver a higher quality or a more cost effective roaming service, then subscribers may migrate to those competitors and our results of operation could be adversely affected. Further, we may not be able to compel providers to participate in our technology migration and enhancement strategies. As a result, our ability to implement technological innovations could be adversely affected if these overseas providers are unable or unwilling to cooperate with the further development of our network or if they cease to provide services comparable to those we offer on our network.

Following European Union regulation of roaming tariffs, which reduced tariffs for calls made by members of the European Union among themselves, several European Union member operators have raised roaming tariffs for calls to and from non-European Union member operators, resulting in higher roaming tariffs, and in other roaming agreements roaming tariffs for our subscribers have decreased. In addition, in August 2008, the Israeli Government adopted a resolution to negotiate a reduction of inbound and outbound roaming tariffs with the European Union and/or members of the European Union or countries frequently visited by Israelis. In January 2012, the Ministry of Communications requested us to provide information in relation to our roaming services and in January 2013, published a hearing proposing restrictions on roaming services provision. For further details see "We operate in a heavily regulated industry, which can harm our results of operations" above. If roaming tariffs continue to decrease including as a result of the proposed negotiation or otherwise and/or if additional European Union member operators raise their tariffs and/or if we are not able to raise our tariffs or otherwise compensate for the higher roaming expenses, this could adversely affect our profitability and results of operations.

Our substantial debt increases our exposure to market risks, may limit our ability to incur additional debt that may be necessary to fund our operations and could adversely affect our financial stability; Regulatory change, market terms and our financial results may affect our possibilities to raise debt.

As of December 31, 2012, our total indebtedness was approximately NIS 6,507 million (\$1,743 million), with our net debt at approximately NIS 4,557 million (\$1,221 million). For additional details see "Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects. – B. Liquidity and Capital resources – General". The indentures governing our debentures currently permit us to incur additional indebtedness. Our substantial debt could adversely affect our financial condition by, among other things:

- increasing our vulnerability to adverse economic, industry or business conditions, including increases in the Israeli Consumer Prices Index, or CPI;
 - limiting our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our industry and the economy in general;
- requiring us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to service our debt, thus reducing the funds available for operations and future business development; and
- limiting our ability to obtain, or resulting in less favorable terms and pricing for, additional financing to operate, develop and expand our business or for refinancing existing debt.

In October 2010, the Commissioner of Capital Markets, Insurance and Savings in the Ministry of Finance published a circular instructing institutional investors to follow certain

Table of Contents

procedures and requirements before investing in non-governmental debentures, including a requirement to verify that certain contractual provisions are included in the indentures of the invested debentures, and to establish a policy for investment in such debentures which will relate among other matters to repayment acceleration rights. These procedures and requirements may adversely affect our possibilities of raising debt from Israeli institutional investors as well as the terms and price of such debt raising. Following these procedures, in 2012 we amended our shelf prospectus to include new limitations and covenants, including a covenant not to issue additional debentures if it involves a rating downgrade, certain financial covenants, negative pledge, cross default, limitation on the distribution of dividends, obligation to pay additional interest in case of certain rating downgrade. These new limitations already apply to our series F and G debentures issued in March 2012 and may apply to any additional debt raising by us. For details regarding such limitations and covenants see "Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects. – B. Liquidity and Capital resources – Debt Service – Shelf Prospectus". These limitations and covenants limit our freedom to conduct our business, may impose additional costs on us and may limit our ability to raise additional debt.

During 2011 and 2012, we suffered a significant decrease in our operating results, following certain regulatory changes, intensified competition and price erosion (For additional details see "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview – Competition" and "-Government Regulations - Tariff supervision", "-Mobile Virtual Network Operators" and "-Additional UMTS Operators") whereas our net debt has increased substantially (from approximately NIS 3,334 million as of December 31, 2010 to approximately NIS 4,557 million as of December 31, 2012). For additional details see "Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects. – B. Liquidity and Capital resources – Debt Service". In May 2012, the rating of our debentures was downgraded due to increased leverage and competitive pressure. In November 2012, the rating company reaffirmed that rating. This and any further downgrade in our rating, and any adverse change in our financial results, including any increase in our net leverage (defined in our amended shelf prospectus as the ratio of net debt to EBITDA during a period of 12 consecutive months, excluding onetime influences) may adversely affect the terms and price of debt raising, particularly through the issuance of debentures to institutional investors, which, given the limitation on the ability of Israeli banks to lend money to us pursuant to the "Guidelines for Sound Bank Administration" issued by the Israeli Supervisor of Banks (as we are a member of IDB's group of borrowers), may limit our ability to obtain additional financing to operate, develop and expand our business or to refinance existing debt.

See also the Concentration Committee's recommendations under "Risks Relating to Our Ordinary Shares - Pending legislation in Israel affecting corporate conglomerates, if enacted, could adversely affect us" below, which if adopted and implemented, may adversely affect our possibilities of raising debt from Israeli institutional investors.

Our business results may be affected by currency fluctuations, by our currency hedging positions and by changes in the Israeli Consumer Price Index

A portion of our cash payments are incurred in, or linked to, foreign currencies, mainly U.S. dollars. In particular, in 2010, 2011 and 2012, payments in U.S. dollars or linked to the U.S. dollar represented approximately 33%, 39% and 36%, respectively, of total cash outflow (including payments of principal and interest on our debentures, but excluding one time payments associated with the acquisition of Netvision). These payments included capital expenditures, some of our operating lease payments and payments to equipment suppliers

Table of Contents

including handset suppliers. As almost all of our cash receipts are in NIS, any devaluation of the NIS against those foreign currencies in which we make payments, particularly the U.S. dollar, will increase the NIS cost of our foreign currency denominated or linked expenses and capital expenditures.

Furthermore, since the principal amount of and interest that we pay on our Series B, C, D and F debentures, are linked to the Israeli CPI, any increase in the Israeli CPI will increase our financing expenses and could adversely affect our results of operations. See "Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects – B. Liquidity and Capital Resources – Debt Service – Public Debentures" for details.

We purchase derivative financial instruments in order to hedge part of the foreign currency risks, CPI risks deriving from our operations and indebtedness. Derivatives are initially recognized at fair value. Changes in the fair value are accounted for such that: Changes in the fair value of derivative hedging instruments designated as a cash flow hedge are recognized directly as a component of our shareholders' equity to the extent that the hedge is effective. To the extent that the hedge is ineffective, changes in fair value are recognized in our income statement as the hedged item affects earnings. The amount recognized in shareholders' equity is transferred to our income statement in the same period that the hedged item affects our earnings. Notwithstanding the above, hedge accounting is not applied to derivative instruments that economically hedge monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies. Changes in the fair value of such derivatives are recognized through our income statement upon occurrence. These differences in the derivative instruments' designation could result in fluctuations in our reported net income on a quarterly basis.

We may not be able to fulfill our dividend policy in the future; implementation of our dividend policy will significantly reduce our future cash reserves.

In February 2006, we adopted a dividend policy targeting a payout ratio of at least 75% of our net income in each calendar year, subject to any applicable law, our license and contractual obligations and provided that such distribution would not be detrimental to our cash needs or to any plans approved by our Board of Directors. The 2012 amendment to our shelf prospectus, under which we have raised additional debt in March 2012, contains a covenant not to distribute more than 95% of the profits available for distribution according to the Israeli Companies Law ("Profits"). Moreover, under the 2012 amendment, if our net leverage (defined as the ratio of net debt to EBITDA during a period of 12 consecutive months, excluding certain one time effects) exceeds 3.5:1, we may not distribute more than 85% of our Profits and if our net leverage exceeds 4.0:1, we may not distribute more than 70% of our Profits. For additional details see "Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects – B. Liquidity and Capital Resources – Debt Service – Shelf Prospectus". In addition, our license requires that we and our 10% or more shareholders maintain at least \$200 million of combined shareholders' equity. Dividend payments are not guaranteed and our Board of Directors may decide, in its absolute discretion, at any time and for any reason, not to pay dividends or to pay dividends at a ratio to net income that is less than that paid in the past. In 2010 and 2011 our Board of Directors declared dividends constituting as much as 95% of our net income and in some cases, part of our retained earnings from earlier periods as well. In respect of 2012, a dividend was declared for the first quarter only, constituting 75% of our net income, whereas for the second, third and fourth quarters, our board of directors chose not to declare dividends, given the intensified competition and substantial changes in pricing and their adverse effect on our results of operations and in order to

Table of Contents

strengthen our balance sheet. See "Item 8. Financial Information - A. Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information - Dividend Policy".

Our dividend policy, to the extent implemented, will significantly reduce our future cash reserves and may adversely affect our ability to fund unexpected capital expenditures. As a result, we may be required to borrow additional money or raise capital by issuing equity securities, which may not be possible on attractive terms or at all.

If we are unable to fulfill our dividend policy, or pay dividends at levels anticipated by investors in our shares, the market price of our shares may be negatively affected and the value of our investors' investment may be reduced.

We rely on a limited number of suppliers for key equipment and services.

We depend upon a small number of suppliers to provide us with key equipment and services. For example, Nokia Siemens Israel provides our network system based on GSM/GPRS/EDGE technology, our UMTS/HSPA core system, part of our radio access network and related products and services, and our landline New Generation Network system, or NGN system; LM Ericsson Israel supplies part of our radio access network and related products and services based on UMTS/HSPA technology; Amdocs Israel provides us with services with respect to the operating of, and the implementation of developments to our billing system; Alcatel Lucent provides our Carrier Ethernet network and SDH equipment for our transmission network; and Be'eri Printers provides our printing supplies and invoices as well as the distribution, packaging and delivery of invoices and other mail to the postal service distribution centers. In addition, we lease a small portion of our transmission capacity from Bezeq, the incumbent landline operator. Should an effective landline wholesale market materialize, we may acquire services from Bezeq and Hot in order to provide internet infrastructure and IPTV to our customers at competitive prices, in which case we would be dependent on Bezeq and Hot for such services. Bezeq has experienced labor disputes, including stoppages, during the privatization process and liberalization of the landline market, and additional disruptions, stoppages and slowdowns may be experienced in the future. If these suppliers fail to provide equipment or services to us on the requisite standards of quality and on a timely basis, we may be unable to provide services to our subscribers in an optimal manner until an alternative source can be found, which may result in loss of customers by us and our license may be at risk of revocation for failure to satisfy the required service standards.

In addition, our handset sales have been dominated in recent years by Apple and Samsung products, representing over half of our handset sales. See "Item 4. Information on the Company - B. Business Overview - Handsets" for additional details. Should any of these suppliers (Samsung through its official importer to Israel – Suny Communications (1994) Ltd., or Suny, an affiliate of Scailex Corporation Ltd., or Scailex, which is one of Partner's controlling shareholders) refuse to sell handsets to us or condition such sales on unfavorable terms and condition to us or provide our competitors more favorable terms and conditions, or if these suppliers fail to produce successful and desirable products and no equivalent alternatives will then be available, this could have a material adverse effect on our handset sales and results of operations.

Table of Contents

We are a member of the IDB group of companies, one of Israel's largest and highly regulated business groups. This may limit our ability to expand our business, to acquire other businesses or raise debt.

We are an indirect subsidiary of IDB, one of Israel's largest and highly regulated business groups. IDB included in its financial statements for the second and third quarters of 2012 a note regarding the existence of significant doubts as to its ability to continue as a going concern due to its liquidity condition. IDB and its debentures holders are currently negotiating proposed outlines for strengthening the financial base of IDB through, among other things, a debt restructuring. As a result of IDB's agreements with its debenture holders, certain events or actions in the IDB group would require IDB either to obtain the approval of the trustees of the debenture holders, or in certain circumstances (including material events or actions in us) to provide advance notice to the trustees. IDB Development included in its financial statements for the second and third quarters of 2012 a note calling attention to its financial condition and to certain restrictions and covenants that, among other things, limit its ability to raise capital. IDB Development's debenture holders are currently considering to take measures against IDB Development, including the possibility to propose a debt restructuring without the cooperation and participation of the current controlling shareholders of IDB. These negotiations and other events that relate to IDB and IDB Development may lead to a change of control of the IDB group. We are unable to predict the outcome of such negotiations, measures and events or the effect on us from any debt restructure that may be implemented. As such, IDB's financial condition could have an adverse effect on our debentures rating and our ability to raise additional debt or the terms of any debt offering that we may effect.

In addition, pursuant to the "Guidelines for Sound Bank Administration" issued by the Israeli Supervisor of Banks, the amount that an Israeli bank may lend to one group of borrowers and to each of the six largest borrowers of such banking corporation is limited. Since we are a member of IDB's group of borrowers, these guidelines may limit the ability of Israeli banks to lend money to us.

Due to the limited size of the Israeli market and due to the high level of regulation of the Israeli market, in particular in the communications market, our being a member of the IDB group of companies may limit our ability to expand our business in the future, to form joint ventures and strategic alliances and conduct other strategic transactions with other participants in the Israeli communications market. See also the Concentration Committee's recommendations under "Risks Relating to Our Ordinary Shares - Pending legislation in Israel affecting corporate conglomerates, if enacted, could adversely affect us" below, which if adopted and implemented, may have an adverse effect on our business.

We are controlled by a single shareholder who can significantly influence matters requiring shareholders' approval.

As of February 15, 2013, DIC held, directly and indirectly, approximately 41.91% of our outstanding share capital. Pursuant to shareholders agreements among DIC and certain of our minority shareholders, who in the aggregate own approximately 3.43% of our ordinary shares, DIC has been granted the voting rights in respect of those shares. In addition to DIC's shareholdings and such additional voting rights, it has the right to appoint the 20% of our directors that we are required by our license and articles of association to have appointed by Israeli citizens and residents among our founding shareholders. Accordingly, subject to legal limitations, DIC has control (as the term "control" is defined in the Israeli Securities Law; namely the ability to direct a company's activities) over all matters requiring shareholder approval, including the election and removal of our directors and the approval of significant corporate transactions. This concentration of ownership could delay or prevent proxy contests, mergers, tender offers, open-market purchase programs or other purchases of our ordinary shares that might otherwise give our shareholders the opportunity to realize a premium over the then-prevailing market price for our ordinary shares.

Further, as a foreign private issuer, we are exempt from the application of the NYSE rules requiring the majority of the members of our Board of Directors to be independent.

Table of Contents

Accordingly, our minority shareholders and debenture holders are denied the protection intended to be afforded by such corporate governance standards.

Risks Related to our wholly owned subsidiary Netvision

Changes in the regulatory environment could adversely affect Netvision's business.

Netvision is subject to regulation of its ongoing operations and could therefore be significantly impacted by decisions of regulators, changes in laws, regulations or government policy affecting its business activities. The uncertainties and risks surrounding the regulatory framework of the Israeli telecommunications market, some of which we are currently unable to foresee or assess, could negatively affect Netvision's business and prospects. Netvision's operations in ISP services, landline telephony and international calling services are highly regulated. A change in the competitive structure of the market or a change in the regulation on structural separation of different types of services may adversely affect Netvision's results of operations and its ability to compete with other large players in the market, such as Bezeq and Hot. The annulment of Early Termination Fees in the landline and ISP markets in November 2011 has increased competition as it has eliminated transfer barriers and resulted in increased churn rate and gross recruitment of subscribers and price erosion.

A policy paper in relation to the wholesale market of landline services in Israel, published by the Minister of Communications in May 2012, called for the annulment of certain structural limitations currently imposed on the Bezeq and Hot groups (and the consideration of annulling or relaxing others), following the execution of a wholesale agreement with another operator which has a significant market share. We are negotiating the terms of such wholesale agreement with Bezeq. Partner has already reached some understandings with Bezeq and in February 2013, Xfone Communications, an ILD operator, that does not have a significant market share, announced entering a wholesale agreement with Bezeq. See "Item 4. Information on the Company - Competition".

Permitting telecommunications companies to offer bundled services, annulment of structural separation and Bezeq's tariffs supervision may have a material adverse effect on Netvision's results of operation by enabling increased competition in the markets in which Netvision operates, specifically by approaching Netvision's customers in the ISP and landline markets which are Bezeq or Hot's customers in the internet infrastructure market. Moreover, it could specifically give a competitive edge to Bezeq and Hot, whose existing infrastructure and ability to offer bundled services may significantly harm Netvision's competitive position to provide its customers with landline telephony, ISP services and international telephony. Bezeq and Hot have the advantage of owning their own infrastructure and the ability to offer landline, international telephony and ISP services, as well as multichannel television independently of any third party support, unlike Netvision. Bezeq and Hot offer bundles of services under certain conditions. Annulment of these conditions and the structural separation, would provide Bezeq and Hot with an advantage over other service providers such as Netvision that do not own their own infrastructure. Further, the offering of services by the Bezeq and Hot groups at tariffs significantly lower than prevailing market tariffs or at prices even lower than our costs for these services, such as by cross subsidizing with other services in which they have the capacity to monopolize the market, could also significantly harm Netvision's competitive position as it could decrease demand for Netvision's services or lead Netvision to offer its services at a loss. Further, as Netvision is dependant on Bezeq and Hot's infrastructure to provide its services on the one hand, and is competing with them on the provision of ISP, ILD and landline services to end-users, on the other hand, price erosion of ISP services would lead to increased demand for greater bandwidth and would require Netvision to significantly increase the capacity it purchases, significantly increasing its

Table of Contents

expenses in purchasing capacity from Bezeq and Hot, while its revenues would be decreasing. This could also have a material adverse effect on Netvision's results of operations. In February 2012, Hot began offering ISP services and has done so at tariffs significantly lower than prevailing market prices and Bezeq also significantly lowered its internet infrastructure services tariffs to end-users. This has led to a significant decrease of ISP tariffs. Netvision believes there is cause for regulatory intervention and has appealed to the regulators to intervene, but cannot predict the outcome of such appeals. See "Item 4. Information on The Company –B. Business Overview – The Communications Market in Israel - Communications Groups – Structural Separation", "Competition" and "Nevision - ISP Business - Competition" and "Nevision - Telephony Business – Competition".

The entry of Hot Mobile and Golan into the ILD market in the second half of 2012 and the beginning of 2013, respectively, could also have an adverse effect on Netvision's results of operations, as customers (specifically their cellular customers) may choose their ILD services over Netvision's. For further details see "We face intense competition in all aspects of our business" above.

In addition, the Ministry of Communications published in November 2011 a hearing about proposed regulation of the underwater international telecommunications connection from Israel, proposing certain limitations on the agreements with Mediterranean Nautilus Ltd. and Mediterranean Nautilus (Israel) Ltd., or collectively Med Nautilus, Netvision's provider, which would, among others, limit the discounts and capacity Med Nautilus may provide. Further, Bezeq International, one of Netvision's main competitors in the ILD and ISP markets, has deployed an underwater cable in December 2011. Adoption of such changes and the deployment of such cable by a Netvision competitor may harm Netvision's results of operations and competitive position as it would force Netvision to purchase capacity at less favorable prices, and more so in comparison to its competitor which is a Bezeq affiliate.

Netvision is exposed to risks relating to network infrastructure and information systems and is dependent on services it receives from its external suppliers; Integration of Netvision's information systems may cause us operating difficulties and expenditures.

Netvision does not own an independent network for providing the services it offers to its customers. Therefore, Netvision is dependent on its infrastructure providers, such as Med Nautilus, which provides underwater international telecom connections, and Bezeq and Hot, which provide broadband connectivity and wireline infrastructure. In some cases, these providers are virtually the sole providers of such infrastructure and cannot be replaced. Should a landline wholesale market materialize, Netvision's dependency on Bezeq and Hot would increase, as Netvision would need to acquire additional services from them for the provision of internet infrastructure, as well as for the provision of IPTV services at competitive prices to its customers. Netvision is also dependent on foreign telecommunications operators for its international ISP and telephony communications. Therefore, termination or amendment of terms of an agreement with any of the infrastructure providers or with some of the foreign operators at once, disruption in or refusal to provide such infrastructure services, as well as regulatory changes affecting the terms of infrastructure services that Netvision receives, may have a material adverse affect on Netvision's ability to provide its services to customers or the profitability of providing such services.

Netvision's operations are dependant on various information systems. The unauthorized entry to or disruption of operation of these information systems, including due

Table of Contents

to cyber attacks, may result in damage to Netvision and its customers, including due to inability to provide certain services or provide them with disruptions or inability to bill for services rendered, loss of data of Netvision or that of its customers stored with Netvision, all of which may expose Netvision to legal claims and liabilities. Further, any successful attacks on Netvisions' customers' information systems, protected by Netvision's data security products, may also expose Netvision to legal claims and liability.

Our merger with Netvision and the offering of bundles of services provided by both companies, increased the number of information systems involved in the billing process of our customers as well as the duplication of other information systems used by the companies, resulting in some cases in cumbersome procedures, inefficient usage of resources and lack of uniformity. The process of integrating Netvision's information systems into our information systems may result in unforeseen operating difficulties and large expenditures and may require significant management attention that would otherwise be available for our ongoing business. Further, the replacement of systems or change of processes may result in substantial malfunctions in our sales and retention activities, errors in billings or other processes, which may lead to loss of revenues, legal claims and regulatory sanctions.

Alternate technology may cause a decline in Netvision's international calling services.

In recent years there has been a decline in use of international calling services through international operators such as Netvision. This is due to, among other things, the development of alternate technologies, such as VoIP, which enable international calls without the services of international operators. These technologies also pose an alternative to landline communications. If this trend continues and alternate technologies improve or if new ones are developed, the competition in the market will increase, which may have a material adverse effect on Netvision's results of operations.

Risks Relating to Operating in Israel

We conduct our operations in Israel and therefore our results may be adversely affected by political, economic and military instability in Israel.

Our operations, our network and some of our suppliers are located in Israel. Accordingly, political, economic and military conditions in Israel may directly affect our business. Since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, a number of armed conflicts have taken place between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Any hostilities involving Israel or the interruption or curtailment of trade within Israel or between Israel and its trading partners could adversely affect our operations and could make it more difficult for us to raise capital. Since September 2000, there has been a high level of violence between Israel and the Palestinians. Hamas, an Islamist movement responsible for many attacks, including missile strikes, against Israelis, won the majority of the seats in the Parliament of the Palestinian Authority in January 2006 and took control of the entire Gaza Strip by force in June 2007. Hamas has launched hundreds of missiles from the Gaza Strip against Israeli population centers, disrupting day-to-day civilian life in southern Israel. This led to an armed conflict between Israel and the Hamas during December 2008 and January 2009 and continued sporadic missile launching from the Gaza strip to Israel. thereafter, In November 2012 there was another armed conflict, involving attacks by hundreds of missiles fired from the Gaza Strip against the Israeli population centers throughout the southern half of Israel and up to and including Tel-Aviv. A substantial part of our network and information systems is located within range of missile strikes from the Gaza Strip and Lebanon. Any damage to our network

Table of Contents

and/or information systems would damage our ability to provide service, in whole or in part, in the southern or northern part of Israel or otherwise damage our operation and could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

More generally, any armed conflicts, terrorist activities or political instability in the region would likely negatively affect business conditions and could harm our results of operations, including following termination of such conflicts, due to a decrease in the number of tourists visiting Israel. At the end of 2010 and during 2011 and 2012 several countries in the region, including Egypt and Syria, have been experiencing increased political instability, which led to change in government in some of these countries (including Egypt), the effects of which are currently difficult to assess. In addition, Iran has threatened to attack Israel and is widely believed to be developing nuclear weapons. Iran is also believed to have a strong influence among extremist groups in areas that neighbor Israel, such as Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon. This situation may potentially escalate in the future to violent events which may affect Israel and us.

In addition, in the event that the State of Israel relinquishes control over certain territories currently held by it to the Palestinian Authority, we will not be able to provide service from our cell sites located in Israeli populated areas and on connecting roads in these territories. This may result in the loss of subscribers and revenues and in a decrease in our market share.

Our freedom and ability to conduct our operations may be limited during periods of national emergency.

The Communications Law grants the Prime Minister of Israel the authority, for reasons of state security or public welfare, to order a telecommunications license holder to provide services to security forces, to perform telecommunications activities or to establish a telecommunications facility as may be required for the security forces to carry out their duties. Further, the Israeli Equipment Registration and IDF Mobilization Law, 1987, also permits the registration of engineering equipment and facilities and the taking thereof for the use of the Israel Defense Forces. This law further sets the payment for use and compensation for damages caused to the operator as a result of such taking. Our general license also permits the Israeli Government, during national emergencies or for reasons of national security, to take all necessary actions in order to ensure state security, including taking control of our network, and requires us to cooperate with such actions. If national emergency situations arise in the future and if we are to be subject during such time to any of the foregoing actions, this could adversely affect our ability to operate our business and provide services during such national emergencies and adversely affect our business operations. Our other licenses and Netvision's licenses (excluding our ISP licenses) contain similar restrictions. See also "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview – Government Regulations – Our Principal License" and "Other Licenses" "Item 4. Information on The Company – B. Business Overview – Netvision".

Provisions of Israeli law and our license may delay, prevent or impede an acquisition of us, which could prevent a change of control.

Israeli corporate law regulates mergers, requires tender offers for acquisitions of shares above specified thresholds, requires special approvals for transactions involving directors, officers or significant shareholders and regulates other matters that may be relevant to these types of transactions. For example, a merger may not be completed unless at least 50

Table of Contents

days have passed from the date that a merger proposal was filed by each merging company with the Israel Registrar of Companies and at least 30 days from the date that the shareholders of both merging companies approved the merger. In addition, a majority of each class of securities of the target company is required to approve a merger. Further, the provisions of our license require the prior approval of the Ministry of Communications for changes of control in our Company.

Furthermore, Israeli tax considerations may make potential transactions unappealing to us or to our shareholders whose country of residence does not have a tax treaty with Israel exempting such shareholders from Israeli tax. For example, Israeli tax law does not recognize tax-free share exchanges to the same extent as U.S. tax law. With respect to mergers, Israeli tax law allows for tax deferral in certain circumstances but makes the deferral contingent on the fulfillment of numerous conditions, including a holding period of two years from the date of the transaction during which sales and dispositions of shares of the participating companies are restricted. Moreover, with respect to certain share swap transactions, the tax deferral is limited in time, and when the time expires, tax then becomes payable even if no actual disposition of the shares has occurred.

These provisions could delay, prevent or impede an acquisition of us, even if such an acquisition would be considered beneficial by some of our shareholders.

Risks Relating to Our Ordinary Shares

A substantial number of our ordinary shares could be sold into the public market, which could depress our share price.

Our largest shareholder, DIC, holds approximately 41.91% of our outstanding ordinary shares, as of February 15, 2013. The market price of our ordinary shares could decline as a result of future sales by DIC or other existing shareholders or the perception that these sales could occur. DIC sold approximately 5% of our outstanding shares outside the United States in 2011 and approximately 1.7% of our outstanding shares in February 2013. Sales may be made pursuant to a registration statement, filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC pursuant to the terms of a registration rights agreement or otherwise, or in reliance on an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act, including the exemptions provided by Rule 144 or Regulation S. Any decline in our share price could also make it difficult for us to raise additional capital by selling shares.

In addition, under our option plan, options are subject to vesting schedules but vesting will be accelerated upon certain events including any sale or other disposition, of all or substantially all, of the outstanding shares of us. As of December 31, 2012 we had 3,019,152 shares reserved for issuance upon the exercise of options. In March 2013, our board of directors resolved to grant an additional 75,000 options. See "Item 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employment – E. Share Ownership – 2006 Share Incentive Plan".

Pending legislation in Israel affecting corporate conglomerates, if enacted, could adversely affect us.

In July 2012, a bill for the promotion of competition and the mitigation of concentration of the Israeli market, sponsored by the Israeli government, passed the first stage of enactment by the Israeli parliament. The bill incorporates most of the recommendations of the public committee for the enhancement of competition and the maintenance of the financial stability of the Israeli economy, or the Concentration Committee's, final recommendations, published in March 2012. The bill includes the

Table of Contents

following main provisions: (1) impose limitations on the holdings by a significant real corporation in a significant financial corporation or the holdings of both kinds of corporation under common control; (2) impose limitations on the control over public corporations through a pyramidal structures by imposing a limitation on the number of layers in such pyramidal structures to three for existing structures and two for new structures; (3) strengthen the corporate governance rules applicable to public companies in Israel, and in particular set additional limitations on transactions in which a controlling shareholder has a personal interest, and strengthen the independence of boards of directors of public companies held through pyramidal structures; (4) limit the exposure of financial institutions to issuers, groups of borrowers and the largest borrowers and issuers groups; and (5) require the governmental authorities responsible for the allocation of rights in public assets (including in the communications field) in certain cases to consider competitive and control concentration factors. The bill provides for transition periods of up to six years to implement the new requirements. The IDB group is a pyramidal structure having more than three layers of companies and we are a fourth layer company in the pyramidal structure of the IDB group. The enactment of such legislation could have an adverse effect on us.

ITEM 4. INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY

A. HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMPANY

Our History

Cellcom Israel Ltd. was incorporated in 1994 in Israel. Our principal executive offices are located at 10 Hagavish Street, Netanya 41240, Israel and our telephone number is (972)–52–999–0052. Our authorized U.S. representative, Puglisi & Associates, is located at 850 Library Avenue, Suite 204 Newark, Delaware 19711 and our agent for service of process in the United States, CT Corporation System, is located at 111 Eighth Avenue, New York, NY 10011.

We hold one of the five general licenses to provide cellular telephone services in Israel. To date, twelve MVNO licenses have been awarded, of which three MVNOs commenced operation in December 2011, April and May 2012 and one returned its license to the Ministry of Communications. Our cellular license was granted by the Ministry of Communications in 1994 and is valid until 2022.

In February 2007 we listed our shares on the NYSE and in July 2007 we dual listed our shares on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, or TASE and began applying the reporting leniencies afforded under the Israeli Securities Law to companies' whose securities are listed both on the NYSE and the TASE.

DIC, a subsidiary of IDB, currently directly and indirectly holds approximately 41.91% of our share capital and the voting rights in respect of an additional approximately 3.43% of our share capital.

As of the date of this Annual Report on Form 20-F, there has been no indication of any public takeover offer by any third party, in respect to our ordinary shares, or by us, with respect to another company's shares.

Acquisition of Netvision Ltd. During 2011

Table of Contents

On August 31, 2011, we completed the acquisition of 100% of the share capital of Netvision for a total consideration of approximately NIS 1.57 billion (\$421 million) pursuant to a merger agreement dated June 15, 2011, by and among our Company, Netvision and a wholly owned subsidiary of our Company, which we formed solely for effecting the merger transaction. Following the consummation of the merger transaction, Netvision became a wholly owned subsidiary of our Company.

Prior to being acquired by us, Netvision was a public company traded on the TASE, indirectly controlled by the IDB Group through direct holdings in Netvision by: (1) DIC, (approximately 38%), and (2) Clal Industries and Investments Ltd., or Clal (approximately 29.7%). DIC is also our direct controlling shareholder. DIC is and Clal was at that time, a direct subsidiary controlled by IDB Development, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of IDB, a public company traded on the TASE.

Since prior to the merger transaction, the IDB Group controlled both Netvision and us, the merger transaction was approved as a related party transaction under Israeli law. For further details, see Item 7. B "Related Party Transactions".

Netvision is a leading company in the Israeli telecommunications market and is engaged in two primary businesses: provision of internet connectivity and related services (ISP); and provision of telephony services consisting mainly of international calling services, operator services, teleconferencing services and landline telephony services. Netvision's ISP and ILD licenses were granted by the Ministry of Communications in 2002 and 1997, respectively and are valid until 2017 and 2025, respectively. In addition, Netvision is engaged in other areas such as custom internet applications and data security products. For further details, see Item 4.B - "Business Overview - Netvision".

Netvision has several subsidiaries, some are wholly owned, some are controlled, and in certain other entities it holds minority stakes. We refer to Netvision and its subsidiaries as "Netvision".

We funded the acquisition of Netvision through a combination of available cash and issuance of additional debentures from our existing Series D and Series E debenture series on the TASE. The offerings described above were made in Israel to residents of Israel only. For further details, see "Item 5. B – Operating and Financial Review and Prospects – Liquidity and Capital Resources".

2012: a year of radical adverse changes

2012 and more specifically the second half of 2012, was characterized by additional radical changes in market conditions, which, in turn, resulted in radical adverse effects on our results of operations following the negative changes we encountered in 2010-2011 due to regulatory pressures. The entry of additional competitors in mid 2012 offering Unlimited Packages for substantially lower tariffs than market level at that time, has dramatically increased the competitive pressure, leading the market to offer competing Unlimited Packages with a focus on price at the expense of service quality and resulting in substantial price erosion and decreased profitability for us, which led to a decrease in our net income, operating profit and EBITDA by 35.6%, 30.7% and 19.1%, respectively, in comparison to 2011. These trends have continued into 2013 and are expected to continue to further adversely affect our results of operations. See Item 3. Risk Factors - We face intense competition in all aspects of our business" and "We are facing substantial organizational and personnel changes" and "Item 4. Information on the Company - B. Business Overview – Competition", for additional details.

Table of Contents

During 2012, we have continually implemented aggressive efficiency measures in order to mitigate those adverse effects. Our efforts to adjust our group's operations to the changing market conditions included aggressive reduction of head count, reduction and integration of units, adjustment of procedures, reduction of expenses and investments, reduction of our sales and service lineup, including by closing and uniting points of sale and walk in centers and eliminating duplicates, reducing call centers and transferring to more cost effective distribution channels, transferring units to other locations in order save expenses, cutting our investment in advertising, substantially reducing the amount of calling plans offered to our customers and focusing on Unlimited Packages and reducing investments. Those measures led to an annual saving run rate of approximately NIS 550 million (when comparing fourth quarter 2012 expenses with fourth quarter 2011 expenses). We intend to continue to implement substantial organizational and personnel changes in order to continue our efforts to mitigate the progressing adverse effects of the changing market conditions. We cannot guarantee the success of these measures. Although to date, those measures did not have a negative effect on our operations, further cutbacks and changes may have an adverse effect on our service and customer service quality .

Principal Capital Expenditures

Our accrual capital expenditure in 2010, 2011 and 2012 amounted to NIS 735 million, NIS 520 million and NIS 537 million, respectively. Accrual capital expenditure is defined as investment in fixed assets and intangible assets, such as spectrum licenses, rights of use of communications lines, UMTS networks' enhancement and expansion and development of new products and services during a given period. The amount of capital expenditure for 2010 includes NIS 108 million for the acquisition of assets and operations of Dynamica, one of our major dealers.

B. BUSINESS OVERVIEW

General

We are the largest provider of cellular communications services in Israel with approximately 3.199 million cellular subscribers for the year ended December 31, 2012. Upon launch of our services in 1994, we offered significantly lower prices for cellular communications services than the incumbent provider and transformed the nature of cellular telephone usage in Israel, turning it into a mass market consumption item. We surpassed the incumbent cellular operator and became the market leader in terms of number of subscribers in 1998 and, despite the entry of additional competitors, we have continued since then to have the highest number of subscribers. As of December 31, 2012, we provided services to approximately 3.199 million subscribers in Israel with an estimated market share of 31.9 %. Our closest competitors have estimated market shares of 29.5% and 28%, respectively. Hot Mobile is estimated to have a market share of 7.6%, Golan is estimated to have a market share of 1.8% and the MVNOs together, are estimated to have a market share of 1.2%. In the year ended December 31, 2012, we generated revenues of NIS 5,938 million (\$1,591 million), EBITDA of NIS 1,753 million (\$470 million), and operating income of NIS 985 million (\$264 million). See note 2 to the table in "Item 3. Key Information – A. Selected Financial Data" for a definition of EBITDA. In 2011, our results of operations were adversely affected by regulatory changes, mainly the reduction of interconnect fees and the increased competition following the reduction of Early Termination Fees. In 2012 our results of operations were much more adversely affected by the intensified competition following the launch of UMTS services by Hot Mobile and Golan in May 2012, leading to accelerated price

Table of Contents

erosion as well as increased churn rate. We estimate that the intensified competition will continue to adversely affect our results in the future. See "Item 5. A. – Operational Review".

We offer a broad range of cellular services through our cellular networks covering substantially all of the populated territory of Israel. These services include basic and advanced cellular telephone services, text and multimedia messaging services and advanced cellular content and data services. We also offer international roaming services in 179 countries as of December 31, 2012. We offer our subscribers a wide selection of handsets from various leading global manufacturers, as well as extended warranty and repair and replacement services to most handsets we offer. We also offer landline transmission and data services to business customers and telecommunications operators and, since July 2006, we offer landline telephony services.

Following the completion of the acquisition of Netvision in 2011, we expanded the range of our telecommunications services and offer, through Netvision, ISP services to private and business customers and additional telephony services, such as international calling services, landline telephony services to the business and the private sectors and teleconferencing services. We also provide through Netvision additional services such as, cloud services and data protection products solutions based on products and services offered by third party vendors. For further details on Netvision's business and operations, see "NETVISION" in this Item 4.B below.

We sell our various cellular services on a stand alone basis or bundled with certain other services offered by Netvision and us.

The following table presents our number of cellular subscribers and revenues for each of the last five years:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Cellular subscribers (end of period) (in thousands)(1)	3,187	3,292	3,394	3,349	3,199
Revenues (in NIS millions)	6,417	6,483	6,662	6,506	5,938

(1)Subscriber data refers to active cellular subscribers. We use a six-month method of calculating our cellular subscriber base, which means that we deduct subscribers from our cellular subscriber base after six months of no revenue generation and activity on our network by or in relation to both the post-paid and pre-paid subscriber. The six-month method is, to the best of our knowledge, consistent with the methodology used by other cellular providers in Israel. During the fourth quarter of 2011, we removed approximately 52,000 subscribers from our subscribers base, which included subscribers using our TDMA network who had not requested a transfer to our other networks following the shutdown of our TDMA network as of December 31, 2011, and subscribers who ceased using our services following a change to our policy which previously allowed subscribers to change from post to prepaid subscription as a result of the reduction of Early Termination Fees in the cellular market in early 2011. These changes affected other key performance indicators. We have not restated prior subscriber data to conform with these changes. In the fourth quarter of 2012, we added a revenue generation criterion of at least NIS 1 of accumulated revenues over the six months period, for M2M (machine to machine) subscribers, which means that any M2M subscriber generating less than NIS 1 of accumulated revenues will not be counted as a subscriber. The addition of the NIS 1 generation criterion resulted in the removal of 138,000 M2M subscribers from our subscriber base in the fourth quarter of 2012. We have not restated prior subscriber data to conform with this change. This change had an immaterial effect on our MOU and ARPU for 2012.

The Telecommunications Industry in Israel

The following table sets forth selected macro statistics about Israel at and for the year ended December 31, 2012:

38

Table of Contents

Population (millions, at end of year)	8.0	
GDP (\$ billions) (1)	241	
GDP per capita (\$ 000) (1)	30.5	
Exports of goods & services (\$ billions) (1)	91	
CPI change	1.6	%
Long-term local currency sovereign credit rating by S&P	A+(Stable)	
Unemployment rate (average for nine months ending September 2011)	6.7	%

(1) 2012 forecast , translated to USD based on the average representative rate of exchange for the year

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, and Ministry of Finance of Israel , Bank of Israel.

The size of Israeli telecommunications services revenues in 2011 was approximately NIS 30 billion. Telecommunications services consist of several segments, which are highly competitive. Of the total telecommunications services revenues in 2011, approximately 56% was comprised of cellular services, approximately 26% was local landline voice and Internet access services, approximately 5% was international voice services, approximately 13% was multichannel television services. These figures have changed substantially in 2012, reflecting a downsizing of the overall revenues in the cellular market, as a result of the increased competition and accelerated price erosion. For additional details, see "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview – Competition". Cellular spending in 2012 was approximately 1.4% of GDP, in line with developed European economies and the United States.

Israel has high penetration rates across all telecommunications services that are in line with developed economies such as in the European Union and the United States. These levels of penetration can be attributed to the rapid adoption rate of new technologies, high expenditures on telecommunications services by consumers and businesses and a relatively young population.

Communications Groups – Structural Separation

Since 2009, the Israeli telecommunications market underwent several ownership changes. These ownership changes resulted in the creation of three additional communications groups in the Israeli communications market, in addition to the Bezeq group: Partner-012 Smile, Cellcom–Netvision and Hot-Mirs. See "Cellular Services" below for additional details. Each of the Bezeq and Hot groups are subject to certain structural separation requirements as a result of being the incumbent and monopoly in their respective core business – landline and multichannel television services. That structural separation was relaxed in 2010, allowing Bezeq and its subsidiaries to offer a bundle of services under certain conditions to private customers (including the condition that each of the services in the Bezeq bundle will be available for sale separately under the same terms as in the bundle; and the requirement that Bezeq allows its competitors to participate in a similar bundle - if it includes ISP, VOB or ILD services - under the same terms and equally markets such bundles as its own bundle – the second requirement does not apply to the sale of the bundle by a subsidiary of Bezeq), and with respect to business customers as well, in July 2012. The offering of a bundle of services, including cellular services by another group, will relax the conditions under which Bezeq may provide a similar bundle. We have offered a bundle of services, including cellular services since mid 2012 and Bezeq has offered a bundle of services, including cellular services, since the end of 2012. Further, the Minister of Communications published in May 2012 a policy document about the wholesale market of landline services in Israel, adopting the main recommendations of a public committee appointed by the Ministry of Communications, in which it decided to annul the structural limitations currently imposed on Bezeq and its subsidiaries when an agreement

regarding a

39

Table of Contents

wholesale market of landline services is executed between Bezeq or Hot and the other operators, and to replace Bezeq's regulated fixed tariffs with maximum tariffs. If the structural limitations are annulled, they will allow Bezeq and its subsidiaries to offer bundles of services without limitation. The annulment of limitations in regards to cellular services and multichannel television services will be considered nine months after the agreement is executed. Although the Hot group is also subject to structural separation limitations between its multi-channel television, ISP, cellular and landline services, it was allowed to offer a bundle of landline, multichannel television and internet infrastructure services and has further requested the Ministry of Communications to annul the structural separation limitations between Mirs and Hot, after already lifting certain limitations in 2011, allowing Hot and Mirs to sell and market each other's services and exchange information. The Hot group was previously allowed to sell a bundle including ISP services under certain conditions (similar to the ones imposed on the Bezeq bundle of services, in relation to the ISP component only). Hot offers a bundle of services excluding cellular services. Bundle offerings have accelerated and are expected to accelerate price erosion in each of the services included. See "Item 4. Information on The Company – B. Business Overview – Competition" and "Nevision - ISP Business - Competition" and "Nevision - Telephony Business - Competition".

Cellular Services

Cellular telephone services were first introduced in Israel in 1986. For the first nine years of cellular operations there was only one operator, Pelephone, a subsidiary of Bezeq, and growth of cellular telephone services, as well as penetration rates, were limited. After the commercial launch of Cellcom in December 1994, cellular penetration rates and cellular phone usage increased significantly. This is mainly due to the fact that our license was awarded to us based upon, among other things, our commitment to offer our services at low prices during the first five years of our operation.

The Israeli cellular market is highly penetrated. The market reached an estimated penetration rate (the ratio of cellular subscribers to the Israeli population) at December 31, 2012, of approximately 127%, representing approximately 10 million cellular subscribers.

The following table sets forth the growth in the total number of cellular subscribers in Israel and the penetration rate over the last five years:

	December 31,									
	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
Total subscribers (millions)	9.2		9.5		9.8		9.8		10.1	
Cellular penetration (%)	124	%	127	%	128	%	128	%	127	%

Source: Reported by Cellcom, Partner, Pelephone and Hot Mobile.

There are currently five MNOs in Israel: Cellcom, Partner, Pelephone, Hot Mobile and Golan; and three active MVNOs: Rami Levy Hashikma Communications Marketing Ltd., or Rami Levy, Home Cellular Ltd., or Home Cellular, and Alon Cellular Ltd., or Alon Cellular. We estimate that the distribution of cellular subscribers among these operators as of December 31, 2012 was: Cellcom 31.9%, Partner 29.5%, Pelephone 28%, Hot Mobile 7.6%, Golan 1.8% and the MVNOs 1.2%. Subscriber data is based on public information as of September 30, 2012, other than with respect to Golan and the MVNOs, which is based on our estimate. However, there is no uniform method of counting subscribers. Hot Mobile and Golan commenced their UMTS operation in May 2012. Rami Levy, Home Cellular and Alon Cellular, all mobile virtual network operators, commenced operations in December 2011,

Table of Contents

April 2012 and May 2012, respectively. An additional nine entities received MVNO licenses during 2010, 2011 and 2013 but to date have not commenced operating. The tenth MVNO licensee has returned its license. We do not know if and when the other MVNO licensees will commence operations.

We are controlled by DIC, a subsidiary of IDB, and started operations at the end of 1994. In August 2011, we completed the purchase of all outstanding shares of Netvision.

Until 2009, Partner was majority-owned by Hutchinson Whampoa Ltd. and started operations in 1998. In October 2009, Scailex, an Israeli company listed on the TASE and indirectly controlled by Israeli businessman Mr. Ilan Ben-Dov, purchased the controlling stake in Partner. Scailex is also an affiliate of Suny, the official importer of Samsung cellular phones to Israel. In January 2013, Scailex sold a major part of the controlling stake in Partner to S.B. Israel Telecom Ltd. (indirectly controlled by the media entrepreneur Haim Saban).

Pelephone is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bezeq, the incumbent landline operator and started operations in 1986. The major controlling shareholder of Bezeq following its privatization in 2005 was F.Sab.Ar Holdings Ltd. (of the Saban Capital Group (controlled by the media entrepreneur Haim Saban), Apax Partners (the international private equity firm) and Arkin Communications (controlled by the Israeli businessman Mori Arkin)). In April 2010, Bezeq announced that F.Sab.Ar Holdings Ltd. completed the sale of its holdings in Bezeq to B Communications Ltd., or B Communications, (formerly named 012 Smile Communications Ltd., or Smile). B Communications is an Israeli company traded on the NASDAQ and the TASE and controlled by Internet Gold Golden Lines Ltd., or Internet Gold. Both B Communications and Internet Gold form part of the Eurocom Communications Group, or Eurocom, controlled by Shaul Alovich (an Israeli businessman) which includes Eurocom Cellular Communications Ltd. - the official representative of Nokia cellular phones in Israel.

In January 2010, Ampal-American Israel Corporation, or Ampal, a company traded on the NASDAQ and TASE completed the purchase of Smile's on-going business, through its indirect wholly owned subsidiary – 012 Smile Telecom Ltd, or Smile Telecom. In March 2011, Partner announced the completion of the purchase of all outstanding shares of Smile Telecom.

MIRS, previously wholly owned by Motorola, had its license upgraded from push-to-talk to a cellular license in February 2001. In 2010, Motorola completed the sale of its holding in MIRS to Altice Securities S.A.R.L, owned by the French businessman Mr. Patrick Derhy. Mr. Derhy has also purchased the controlling stake in Hot Telecom, or Hot, which provides multichannel pay-TV services and Internet, data and landline telephony services. In September 2011, Hot acquired all the outstanding shares of MIRS and in May 2012 launched UMTS cellular services under the name Hot Mobile. In December 2012, Hot was privatized and its shares were delisted from the TASE.

Golan is owned by Xavier Niel, founder and controlling shareholder of the French telecom company Iliad- Free, Patrick and Gerard Pariente, founders and former owners of Naf Naf, a European fashion brand and Michael Golan, the CEO of Golan and former CEO of the French telecom company Iliad – Free.

Table of Contents

Rami Levy is a subsidiary of a major Israeli discount supermarket chain. Home Cellular is a subsidiary of a leading 'do it yourself' stores chain. Alon Cellular is owned by Alon Holdings which also controls a leading retail and gas station chain.

The following listing sets forth the key milestones in the history of the Israeli cellular services:

- 1986 Bezeq and Motorola create a joint venture called "Pelephone", which becomes Israel's first cellular operator. Pelephone launches N-AMPS services
- 1994 Cellcom awarded a license and launches TDMA services
- 1997 Cellcom introduces first pre-paid plan to the market
- 1998 Partner awarded a license and launches GSM services
- 1998 Pelephone launches CDMA services
- 2001 Ministry of Communications allocates additional 2G and 3G cellular frequencies for existing cellular operators and for the licensing of a new operator
- 2001 MIRS becomes Israel's fourth cellular operator with iDEN services
- 2002 Cellcom launches GSM/GPRS services
- 2003 Cellcom launches EDGE services
- 2004 Partner launches UMTS services
Pelephone launches EVDO services
- 2006 Cellcom launches full scale UMTS/HSDPA services
- 2007 Partner launches HSDPA services
- 2008 Cellcom launches HSUPA services
- 2009 Pelephone launches UMTS/HSPA services
- 2010 Ministry of Communications provides MVNO licenses; Cellcom and Pelephone launch HSPA+ services
- 2011 Mirs and Golan awarded UMTS operator licenses
Rami Levy, MVNO operator, commences operations
Cellcom stops operating its TDMA network
- 2012 Hot Mobile and Golan commence operation of UMTS network
Home Cellular and Alon Cellular, MVNO operators, commence operations

Key characteristics of the Israeli cellular services market

The following paragraphs describe the key characteristics of the Israeli cellular services market:

High cellular telephone penetration. The estimated penetration rate in Israel as of December 31, 2012 was 127%. Penetration rate is calculated by dividing the total number of subscribers by the Israeli population. The Israeli population does not include foreign workers and Palestinian subscribers who are included in the number of subscribers. The number of subscribers also includes subscribers with more than one subscription to a cellular network (including data only subscriptions alongside a cellular subscription) and may also include subscribers to more than one network including those in the process of switching networks. As a result, the effective penetration rate after adjustment for these factors is likely to be lower than 127%. The regulatory reduction to a negligible amount and subsequent annulment, of Early Termination Fees in the cellular market, has reduced the number of subscribers with more than one subscription.

Favorable demographics. Population growth is generally high and the population is relatively younger than in other developed economies.

Favorable geography and high population density around a few urban centers. Israel covers a small area of territory of approximately 8,000 square miles (20,700 square kilometers). In addition, Israel is relatively flat and dry. Moreover, the population tends to

Table of Contents

be concentrated in a small number of geographical locations. These characteristics facilitate efficient network roll out and maintenance.

High cellular voice usage. The average cellular voice usage per subscriber in Israel is well over 300 minutes per month, which is higher than the average cellular voice usage per subscriber in most developed economies using the pricing model of "calling party pays".

Low average voice revenue per minute. Cellular operators in Israel have lower average voice revenues per minute than in most developed calling party pay economies. This is a consequence, among other things, of the strong competition and a heavily regulated environment. Following the reduction of Early Termination Fees and the entry of additional competitors to the cellular market and the intensified competition, the average voice revenue per minute further declined in 2012 as a result of the offering of Unlimited Packages at significantly lower ARPU which led to further price erosion (together with higher MOU).

High percent of Postpaid customers. The Israeli cellular market has a high percent of Postpaid customers (72%) compared to other developed countries.

High potential for mobile data. We believe that there is a potential for growing mobile data revenues by increasing marketing efforts of new data devices (such as tablets and laptops) to increase usage of data together with the growth in our existing 3G subscriber base.

Calling party pays. In Israel, as in most of the world, the party originating the call pays for the airtime. Cellular telephone network operators do not charge subscribers for calls received on their handsets, except while roaming abroad.

Annual churn rates. The average annual churn rate in Israel in 2012 is estimated to be approximately 29%, which is higher than the churn rates in other developed economies. This churn rate reflects a material increase in churn rate attributed to the regulatory changes implemented in 2011 and 2012 such as the regulatory reduction of Early Termination Fees to a negligible amount and national roaming which facilitated the entry of additional competitors focused on gaining market share and offering Unlimited Packages at substantially lower prices.

Wireline Services

Landline Services

Bezeq operates approximately 2.3 million lines (at the end of September 2012) and provides local services. The second largest competitor in landline telephony services is Hot, a provider of cable TV services, which started landline operations in late 2003. Hot's network has been upgraded to offer Internet, data and voice services.

In recent years, Bezeq has experienced a significant drop in its traffic volume. Bezeq is a monopoly and thus subject to enhanced regulatory scrutiny, including supervision of tariffs.

For a policy paper published by the Minister of Communications in May 2012, liaising the creation of a wholesale market of landline services in Israel and the annulment of certain structural limitations currently imposed on the Bezeq and Hot groups see "Competition" below.

Table of Contents

We and Netvision (now our wholly owned subsidiary) entered this market in 2006. Partner entered this market in 2007, Smile Telecom entered this market in 2006 and Bezeq International (VOB only) entered this market in 2009, bringing to a total of seven players.

Broadband and Internet services

The Israeli broadband market is characterized by a regulatory structural separation between the providers of the internet infrastructure and the internet access service. Based on Bezeq and Hot reports, at the end of September 2012, there were approximately 1.921 million subscribers, and the household penetration rate was approximately 87%. The only providers of infrastructure in the market are Bezeq through DSL technology and Hot through cable. DSL services were launched by Bezeq in 2000 and currently represent a 52% share of broadband connections. Cable modems, which account for the rest of the market, have been available since 2002.

Hot announced in 2010 it has completed the upgrade of its network to UFI (Ultra Fast Internet) network and Bezeq announced it will complete upgrading its network to high speed NGN (New Generation Network) in 2012. In December 2011, Bezeq announced it will start a limited trial to test a Fiber to the Building (FTTB) and Fiber to the home (FTTH) network. In February 2010, the Ministry of Communications provided a trial license to the Israeli Electric Company, or IEC, allowing it to use its fiber optic infrastructure to provide transmission services to other operators. In January 2013, IEC was formally allowed to engage in communications activity by the Ministry of Finance and in February 2013, it received the approval of the Israeli Ministry of Energy and Water. In March 2011, the Israeli government approved the establishment of a new communications company that will be granted the exclusive right to use the Israeli Electric Company's optic fiber infrastructure for the provision of broadband transmission services. The new company will be controlled by a private investor which may not hold any means of control in another communications company, and the IEC will own the minority interest in this new company. The IEC is expected to begin the deployment in the end of 2013.

Transmission and landline data services are provided by Bezeq, Hot, Partner (who acquired Med-1's operation in 2006) and us. These services are provided to business customers and to telecommunications operators.

Internet access is currently provided by three major Internet service providers, or ISPs: Netvision (our wholly owned subsidiary), Bezeq International, Smile Telecom (a subsidiary of Partner), and some other smaller players. Hotnet, a subsidiary of Hot, began providing ISP services in February 2012. We estimate the market share of the three largest ISPs to be similar, with each holding around one third of the market. All three major providers are also suppliers of international voice services. Partner entered this market in December 2008.

Until 2011, the Israeli ISPs were connected to the World Wide Web through an underwater communications cable owned and operated by Mediterranean Nautilus Ltd., a subsidiary of Telecom Italia SpA. In December 2011, Bezeq International announced that its own underwater communications cable was operational and in February 2012, the Tamares Group's underwater communications cable, owned by the British businessman Poju Zabloudowicz commenced operations. These additional underwater cables have increased the effective bandwidth of international data connectivity and reduced costs for ISPs. However, proposed regulation published for public comments by the Ministry of Communications in

Table of Contents

November 2011, proposes certain limitations on the terms of agreements with Med Nautilus, which would, among others, limit the discounts and capacity Med Nautilus may provide and force ISP providers (other than Bezeq International) to purchase capacity on less favorable terms and prices.

International voice services

International voice services in Israel have been open for competition since December 1996. Until then, Bezeq International, was the only supplier of such services. There are currently eight? players in this market. The three major players are: Bezeq International, Netvision (our wholly owned subsidiary) and Smile Telecom. The other players are: Xfone Communications, Telzar International Communications Services Ltd. and Rami Levy, Golan and Hot (through wholly owned subsidiaries or affiliates). The market share of the three major players is similar, with each having approximately 31-33% market share. Entry barriers to this market are low, technological alternatives such as Skype are commonly used and competition is intense.

Multichannel television

The multichannel pay-TV market is also highly penetrated with levels above those of most developed economies. Multichannel pay-TV services are provided by Hot and by YES, a subsidiary of Bezeq. Digital terrestrial television (DTT) broadcasting was commercially launched in 2010, and may affect the level of competition in this market and attract additional players, that may use the DTT as a basic service to be bundled with additional IPTV or Over the Top (OTT) channels. In February 2011, the Israeli government decided to enlarge the DTT service from 5 channels to 16 channels in two years.

See "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview – Government Regulations – Competition" for the Minister of Communications' policy document regarding its decision to annul structural limitations in the communications market and create a wholesale market for landline services.

Business Strategy

Our goal is to strengthen our position as a leading Israeli telecommunications group. The principal elements of our business strategy are as follows:

- Offering our customers comprehensive mobile and wireline solutions. We offer our customers a wide range of mobile and wireline telecommunications services and comprehensive packages of telecommunications services We offer a one stop shop for the group's portfolio of services, in both customer service and sales and offer a comprehensive communication packages, comprising of services of both companies, as we did with the "Cellcom Total" and "Cellcom Total for businesses" pricing plans. In addition, we intend to continue to leverage our leading position and large market share in those businesses for cross-sales and the offering of new services which are found to be synergetic to those businesses, in order to increase our overall revenues and market share.
- Growing and developing of our Mobile Data. We view Mobile Data as a significant growth engine for our business. Accordingly, during 2012, we upgraded our Carrier Ethernet network in order to enable the provision of data services at higher speed and capacity and enhanced and expanded both our UMTS/HSPA+ network and our GSM/GPRS/EDGE network, primarily in urban areas, by adding infrastructure to

Table of Contents

improve outdoor and indoor coverage including through UMTS/HSPA 850 MHz sites. Also, we put an emphasis on marketing data products which enable data usage and services, including smartphones, tablets and laptops and were the only cellular operator in Israel to market iPad products. We intend to continue to invest in the improvement and upgrade of our high speed UMTS/HSPA+ network, to enhance its capacity and increase its speed, as well as enhance our readiness towards a 4G technology, in order to permit higher-quality and higher-speed multimedia content transmission, which is one of the factors in subscriber selection of, and loyalty to, a cellular operator. In 2013 we plan to continue our efforts in expanding data services usage and revenues, focusing on increasing sales of data-enabled devices such as tablets, modems, laptops and smartphones.

- Growing in wireline services. We intend to continue to expand our landline business with both private and business customers. For private customers, we provide ISP, VOB services (via Bezeq's and Hot's infrastructure) as well as ILD services. The development of wholesale landline services as decided by the Ministry of Communications in May 2012, if and when becoming available and efficient, will enhance our ability to offer such services and compete with the incumbents, Bezeq and Hot as well as other competitors in these markets, specifically in relation to residential landline services where our market share is currently non-material. For details of the wholesale market see also "Item 4. Information on the Company – Government Regulations – Competition". For business customers, following the merger with Netvision, we provide a wide range of telecommunications services, including cellular, ISP, ILD, landline telephony services, as well as hosting and data security services. These, combined with approximately 1,600 kilometer inland fiber-optic network, our microwave infrastructure, and Netvision's high penetration in business parks and industrial centers, provide us with the ability to selectively offer cost-efficient landline telecommunications solutions to business customers and integrated offerings.
- Offer new services that will complete our offering as a telecommunications group and are synergetic to our core businesses. We continue to develop new complementary businesses which leverage our varied capacities and are synergetic to our core business. We have identified the NFC (Near Field Communication) based cellular credit card services and the television services over the internet (known as Over the Top TV, or OTT TV) as potential synergetic and complementary services to our core business. The cellular credit card services are developed by us in cooperation with major third parties and offer an innovative alternative to the traditional use of credit cards. We have been developing an OTT TV solution, which would allow us, when it is completed and should we decide to launch it, to offer as an attractive alternative to the traditional cable and satellite television services currently offered in Israel by Hot and Yes (a subsidiary of Bezeq).
- Optimization of cost structure. We continue our efforts to control costs and improve our efficiency. In 2012 we utilized the synergies created by the acquisition of Netvision, including the merger of our and Netvision's headquarters and our and Netvision's business customers operations and the transfer of Netvision's employees to our headquarters' facilities in Netanya, in order to optimize associated costs and improve the service to our business customers by providing them a one stop shop service. We have also taken other aggressive efficiency measures, through adjustments to the existing head count, a reduction in overhead expenses and improvement of work processes. We plan to

Table of Contents

aggressively continue cost cutting initiatives in 2013, including substantial organizational and personnel changes. .

Cellular Services and Products

As of December 31, 2012, we provide cellular communications services to approximately 3.199 million subscribers, including basic cellular telephony services, text and multimedia messaging, data and other value-added services as well as handset sales. Not all services are supported by all handsets or by all of our networks.

We offer our cellular subscribers a variety of usage and segment pricing plans and in 2012 we began offering packages combining cellular services with other communications services our group offers, such as the "Cellcom Total" pricing plan, offering a package of unlimited voice and SMS usage, cellular data, ISP, landline and ILD services for home and a similar pricing plan tailored for small and medium businesses, offering a package of unlimited voice and SMS usage, cellular data, extended repair services, IP switchboard, ISP, landline and ILD services for the office. We offer two methods of payment: pre-paid and post-paid. Pre-paid services are offered to subscribers who pay for our services prior to obtaining them, usually by purchasing our "Talkman" pre-paid cards or "virtual" Talkman cards. Post-paid services are offered to subscribers who are willing to pay for our services through banking and credit arrangements, such as credit cards and direct debits. Following the regulatory annulment of Early Termination Fees in the cellular market, our new pricing plans do not include a commitment to purchase our services for a predefined period, other than in large business agreements. The marketing of Unlimited Packages for a fixed low monthly sum resulted in the transfer of many pre-paid subscribers into such post-paid Unlimited Packages.

Basic cellular telephony services

- Our principal cellular service is basic cellular telephony. In addition we offer many other services with enhancements and additional features to our basic cellular telephony service. These services include voice mail, cellular fax, call waiting, call forwarding, caller identification and conference calling.
- We also offer both an outbound roaming service to our subscribers when traveling outside of Israel and an inbound roaming service to visitors to Israel who can "roam" into our network. As of December 31, 2012, we had commercial roaming relationships with 545 operators in 179 countries based on the standard agreements of the GSM organization (an umbrella organization in which all the cellular operators operating with GSM technology are members). In addition, as of December 31, 2012, we had 3G roaming arrangements with 277 of these operators, in 113 countries, enabling our 3G roamers to use data services abroad.

Value-added and data services

- In addition to basic cellular telephony services, we offer many value-added services. We offer those services that we believe are likely to be popular with subscribers and benefit our business. Some of the value-added services that we offer are available only to subscribers who have supporting handset models and some are offered only to business subscribers. The principal advanced value-added services that we currently offer are:

Table of Contents

Cellcom Volume. This social music service offers a monthly subscription to a large offering of music items provided in streaming through mobile handsets and computers.

SMS and MMS services. These messaging services enable subscribers to send and receive text, photos, multimedia and animation messages.

Access to third party application providers. We provide our subscribers with access to certain services offered by third party application providers. These services include vehicle-fleet management, remote management of various controllers, location based services, such as a navigator and locating various establishments in their vicinity and information and content services, some also provided by us, using various platform and

including news headlines, sports results, and traffic and weather reports.

Data services. We offer our subscribers data services they can use with handsets (in supporting models), cellular modems, laptops and tablets. We provide our customers with a variety of "internet surfing packages" for that purpose.

We have established relationships with content providers to provide us content for our value-added services, including Logia Development and Content Management Ltd., or Logia, to manage and develop cellular content in Israel exclusively for us.

Handsets

We sell a wide selection of handsets (which for purposes of this report may include other types of cellular end-user equipment, such as tablets) designed to meet individual preferences. Prices of handsets vary based on handset features and special promotions. In most cases, handsets are to be paid in 36 monthly installments. We offer a variety of handsets from world-leading brands such as Apple, LG, Nokia, Samsung, Sony, HTC, ZTE, Alcatel and RIM. The vast majority of our handset sales in 2012 have been by Apple and Samsung. The handset models we sell offer Hebrew language displays in addition to English, Arabic and Russian (in most of the models). We are also required to provide cellular services to subscribers who did not purchase their handsets from us, provided that the handset model has been approved for use by the Ministry of Communications. We offer our subscribers an extended handset warranty as well as repair and replacement services for most handsets, in approximately 40 locations, including through our wholly owned dealer. See also "Customer Care" below.

We also sell modems, tablets and laptops to promote our data services.

In November 2001, we entered an agreement with Suny for the provision of maintenance and repair services which will be provided to us in relation to Samsung products that we shall purchase from Suny. Other conditions, including price of products, are agreed between us and Suny from time to time.

In 2009, we entered an agreement with Apple Sales International, for the purchase and distribution of iPhone handsets in Israel. Under the terms of the agreement, we committed to purchase a minimum quantity of handsets over a period of three years. Such commitment was satisfied in 2011.

Table of Contents

In March 2012, we entered into an agreement with Apple Sales International for the purchase and distribution of iPad products in Israel. Under the terms of the agreement we have committed to purchase a minimum quantity of iPad products over a period of three years, which is expected to represent a significant portion of our expected total tablets purchase amount over that period. The total amount of the iPad products' purchases will depend on their purchase price at the time of purchase.

Landline services

In addition to our cellular services, we provide landline telephony, transmission and data services, using our approximately 1,600 kilometers of inland fiber-optic infrastructure and complementary microwave links. We have offered transmission and data services since 2001. We received a license to offer landline telephone service in April 2006 and, since July 2006, have been offering this service to selected businesses. Through our NGN system, we were the first landline operator in Israel to provide advanced, voice and data services, to selected business customers, as of February 2008. In addition, Netvision also offers landline services to both private and business customers, focusing on the private sector. For further details, please see below in this Item 4. – B. under the caption "NETVISION".

An effective wireline wholesale market, if and when made available, will facilitate our and Netvision's growth and allow us (as well as our competitors) to provide a wider selection of services at competitive terms. The annulment of the structural limitations in the Bezeq group and change of the supervision on Bezeq tariffs from fixed to maximum tariffs, could adversely affect our ability to compete with Bezeq. See "Item 4. Information on the Company – Government Regulations – Competition" for additional details regarding the wireline wholesale market and the establishment of a new communications company that shall be granted the exclusive right to use the Israeli Electric Company's optic fibers infrastructure for the provision of broadband transmission services. See "Item 3. Risk Factors – Risks related to our wholly owned subsidiary Netvision – Changes in regulatory environment could adversely affect Netvision's business" for risks relating to our landline operations and our ability to grow in that market.

Network and Technology

General

Our network has developed over the years since we commenced our operations in 1994 and we now have dual cellular and wireline capabilities.

Our “third generation” UMTS/HSPA+, or high-speed downlink packet data access, technology, offers full interactive multimedia capabilities with current data rates of up to 42 Mbps on the downlink path and up to 4 Mbps on the uplink path. In 2013 we intend to further increase the downlink path speed up to 84 Mbps in selected urban areas. This network, considered to be a “3.9/4G” technology, is a network that uses the same core as our GSM/GPRS/EDGE network. Our UMTS/HSPA+ network covers substantially all of the populated territory in Israel. Moreover, our UMTS/HSPA+ network supports new types of services that require higher throughput and lower delay, such as video conferencing.

Our “second generation” GSM/GPRS/EDGE 1800MHz network allows for voice calls, data transmission and multimedia services, like video streaming and video live (using the EDGE technology), although at slower speeds than our UMTS/HSPA+ network. Our GSM/GPRS/EDGE technology is an advanced second-generation technology and considered

Table of Contents

to be a “2.75G” technology. It enables us to deliver multimedia and services at speed rates that are higher than the rates offered through regular “second generation” digital cellular technology. Packet data rates vary from 50 Kbps to 200 Kbps, depending mainly on handset capabilities. In addition, in the case of coverage gaps and for services supported by our GSM/GPRS/EDGE technology, the network provides an adequate fallback and capacity relief for our UMTS/HSPA+ network by means of smart features and network load sharing. Most of our voice traffic uses the GSM/GPRS/EDGE network and most of the data traffic uses the UMTS/HSPA+ networks.

Until December 31, 2011 we also had a separate network using our initial TDMA 850MHz wireless technology, which was a “second generation” technology, at which time we discontinued its operation.

Our transmission network is comprised of approximately 1,600 kilometers of inland advanced fiber-optic cables that, together with our microwave infrastructure, enable us to provide our customers with telephony and high speed and high quality transmission and data services. Our transmission network is strategically deployed in order to cover the major portion of Israel’s business parks and permits us to provide our own backhaul services while reducing our need to lease capacity from Bezeq, the incumbent landline operator in Israel.

Our NGN system by Nokia Siemens, allows the provision of advanced voice and data services to our landline customers.

Infrastructure

We have built an extensive, durable and advanced cellular network system, enabling us to offer high-quality services to substantially the entire Israeli populated territory. Since maintaining a high-quality network is a basic element in our business strategy, we seek to satisfy quality standards that are important to our subscribers, such as high voice quality, high data rate packet sessions, low “blocked call” rate (calls that fail because access to the network is not possible due to insufficient network resources), low “dropped call” rate (calls that are involuntarily terminated) and deep indoor coverage. Therefore, we have made substantial capital expenditures and expect to continue to make capital expenditures on our network system, although given the adverse effects on results of operations in 2012, which we expect will continue to adversely affect our results of operations, such expenditures are likely to be lower than in previous years. As of December 31, 2012, we had invested an aggregate sum of NIS 9.091 billion (\$2.435 billion) on our network infrastructure since our inception in 1994 (not including investments made by Netvision).

We cover substantially all of the populated areas of Israel with both our UMTS/HSPA+ network and our GSM/GPRS/EDGE network. Our UMTS/HSPA+ network is mostly co-located with our GSM/GPRS/EDGE network. The suppliers of our UMTS/HSPA+ network are Ericsson Israel (for part of our 3G radio access network) and Nokia Siemens Israel (for our core network and part of our radio access network). The supplier of our GSM/GPRS/EDGE network is Nokia Siemens. Ericsson and Nokia Siemens, each with respect to the network supplied by it to us, provide us with maintenance services.

Since 2010 we have enhanced and expanded both our UMTS/HSPA+ network and our GSM/GPRS/EDGE network, primarily in urban areas, by adding infrastructure to improve outdoor and indoor coverage including through UMTS/HSPA 850 MHz sites. As of the end of 2012 we had deployed UMTS/HSPA 850 MHz sites through substantially all of

Table of Contents

the populated areas of Israel and have substantially completed our UMTS/HSPA 850 MHz deployment.

Our SDH transmission network launched in 1999, which is based on Alcatel Lucent and Nortel technology and covers substantially all of the populated areas in Israel is maintained by Alcatel Lucent and Ciena Corporation (which purchased Nortel's relevant business). Our Carrier Ethernet network launched in 2010, which is based on Alcatel Lucent technology, and covering substantially all of the populated areas in Israel, is maintained by Alcatel Lucent.

Pursuant to the requirements of our license (as well as the licenses of the other telephony service providers in Israel), our network is interconnected, either directly or indirectly, to the networks of all other telephony service providers in Israel. Our network monitoring system provides around-the-clock surveillance of our entire network. The network operations center is equipped with sophisticated systems that constantly monitor the status of all switches and cell sites, identify failures and dispatch technicians to resolve problems. Operations support systems are utilized to monitor system quality and identify devices that fail to meet performance thresholds. These same platforms generate statistics on system performance such as dropped calls, blocked calls and handoff failures. Our network operations center is located in our Netanya headquarters. In addition, we have partial duplicate back up centers in Kiryat Gat and Ramle, located approximately 80 and 40 kilometers, respectively, south of Netanya and a disaster recovery plan, or DRP, for all our engineering systems.

Network design

We have designed our GSM/GPRS/EDGE and UMTS/HSPA+ networks in order to provide high quality and reliability well beyond the requirements set forth in our license while using a cost-effective design, utilizing shared components for our networks, where applicable.

We have a DRP for all of our engineering systems, aimed at increasing our network's survivability in case of damage to any of its elements. The DRP also provides our network with additional advantages including increased capacity and advanced qualities. In 2013 we intend to continue to improve our recovery periods.

Our primary objective going forward is to continually improve and upgrade our high speed UMTS/HSPA+ network, mainly by enhancing its capacity and increasing its speed, in order to allow for the fast growth of data usage on our network. At the same time we intend to continue to perform extensive optimization work to provide our subscribers with maximum capability to support video and other broad-bandwidth content and enhance our readiness to 4G technology. Actual implementation of 4G technology would be dependent on the allocation of frequencies. See also "Item 3. Risk Factors – We may be adversely affected by significant technological and other changes in the cellular communications industry".

Network performance

We continually optimize our entire network in order to meet the key performance indicators for our services, including dropped calls, voice quality, accessibility, availability and packet success rate. We use advanced planning, monitoring and analyzing tools in order to achieve our performance goals efficiently and with minimum faults.

Table of Contents

The two main indicators that we use to measure network performance for voice and packet data are the “blocked call” rate and the “dropped call” rate. Our levels of blocked and dropped calls are better than those required by our license.

Spectrum allocation

Spectrum availability in Israel is limited and is allocated by the Ministry of Communications through a licensing process. We have been allocated 2x10 MHz in the 850 MHz frequency band used by our TDMA network (until its shutdown in December 31, 2011) and currently by our UMTS/HSPA 850 MHz base stations, deployed for coverage improvement, and 2x17 MHz in the 1800 MHz frequency band used by our GSM/GPRS/EDGE network. In addition, the Ministry of Communications awarded us 2 x 10 MHz and 1 x 5 MHz in the 1900 - 2200 MHz frequency band for our UMTS third generation FDD and TDD spectrums, respectively. In December 2008, we returned the TDD spectrum to the Ministry of Communications, after not being able to use that spectrum since it was awarded to us in 2004, due to unavailability of supporting equipment. We believe that our available spectrum is sufficient for our current needs. However, in light of the growing demand for data consumption and 4G technology, we will be required to purchase additional spectrum in the future. We were not allowed to participate in the UMTS spectrum tender published in September 2010 by the Ministry of Communications and there is no assurance that additional spectrum will be made available to us in the future to satisfy our needs and plans or at all. See also "Item 3. Risk Factors – We may be adversely affected by significant technological and other changes in the cellular communications industry".

Cell site construction and licensing

We construct cell sites based on our strategy to expand the geographical coverage and improve the quality of our network and as necessary to replace cell sites that need to be removed. Our acquisition teams survey the area in order to identify the optimal location for the construction of a cell site. In urban areas, this would normally be building rooftops. In rural areas, masts are usually constructed. Our transmission teams also identify the best means of connecting the base station to our network, based on our independent transmission network, either by physical optical fiber, microwave link or Bezeq landlines. Once a preferred site has been identified and the exact equipment configuration for that site decided, we begin the process of obtaining all necessary consents and permits. The construction of cell sites requires building permits from local or regional authorities, or an applicable exemption, as well as a number of additional permits from governmental and regulatory authorities, such as construction and operating permits from the Ministry of Environmental Protection in all cases, permits from the Civil Aviation Authority in most cases and permits from the Israeli Defense Forces in some cases. In special circumstances, additional licenses are required. See “Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview – Government Regulations—Permits for Cell Site Construction.”

Suppliers

We entered into an agreement with LM Ericsson Israel Ltd., or Ericsson Israel, in September 2005 for the purchase of UMTS radio access network and ancillary products and services. We have an option to purchase additional maintenance services on an annual basis for 20 years from the launch of the system (until 2026). In December 2011, we entered into an addendum to the agreement for the purchase of upgraded UMTS /HSPA products and

Table of Contents

related services, under similar terms. Under the agreement, the parties generally have limited liability for direct damages of up to 40% of the value of the agreement.

We entered into an agreement with Nokia Israel Communications Ltd., in July 2001 for the purchase of our GSM/GPRS system (the agreement was assigned to Nokia-Siemens Networks Israel Ltd., or Nokia Siemens, in 2007). We were also granted an option to purchase GSM 800, EDGE, UMTS and ancillary systems. In 2002, we exercised our option to purchase an EDGE system, and in 2005, we purchased a UMTS core system, under similar terms. In May 2011, we entered into an addendum to the agreement for the purchase of UMTS/HSPA radio access network and related products and services in addition to the purchase of UMTS /GSM core system. Nokia Siemens is obligated to offer us maintenance services for 15 years from execution of the addendum (until 2026). Under the agreement, the parties generally have limited liability for direct damages of up to 10% of the value of the agreement.

We use Telcordia's intelligent platform, or "IN," to provide services to our GSM/GPRS/EDGE and UMTS networks, allowing us, at minimal cost, to internally develop sophisticated services with a short time-to-market that are customized to local market requirements. We have also deployed Comverse's Intelligent Peripheral, which enables us to develop services with rich voice interaction, such as Caller Name Announcement, Call Back and Fun Dial. Our IN platform supports all relevant IN protocols, which allows us to provide (subject to applicable roaming agreements) advanced roaming services, including Virtual Home Environment, abbreviated dialing, unified access to voice mail, VPN, local number format from subscribers' phone book and call screening.

In addition, we have agreements with several Israeli engineering companies for the construction of our cell sites. We also purchase certain network components from other suppliers.

Transmission Network

Our transmission network provides us with wireline connectivity for our cellular and landline network in substantially all of the populated territory of Israel. It is based on our fiber-optic network and complementary microwave infrastructure. Our transmission network includes links to our internal network and to our landline and transmission subscribers.

Our optical transmission network is deployed from Nahariya in the north to Beer Sheva in the south and Afula and Jerusalem in the east, consisting of approximately 1,600 kilometers. The fiber-optic network reaches most of the business parks in the country and is monitored by a fault-management system that performs real-time monitoring in order to enable us to provide our subscribers with high quality service. In order to efficiently complete our transmission network's coverage to substantially the entire country, we use a microwave network as a complementary solution in those areas that are not served by our fiber-optic network. As of December 31, 2012, we had deployed approximately 3,000 microwave links to both our cell sites and subscribers.

In 2012 we upgraded our transmission network to support a downlink path speed up to 42 Mbps and intend to continue to upgrade it up to 84 Mbps in selected urban areas in 2013. We further upgraded the capabilities of our IP management system, to support data surfing growth and speed.

Table of Contents

In February 1999, we entered into an agreement with Alcatel SEL AG (later assigned to Alcatel Lucent Israel Ltd., or Alcatel Lucent), for the purchase of SDH transmission network. Alcatel Lucent is obliged to offer us maintenance services for 15 year from the effective date (until March 2014). Under the agreement, Alcatel Lucent has generally limited liability for direct damages of up to the higher of the sum collected from its insurer less US \$1,000,000 per year or US \$1,000,000 per each calendar year.

In November 2009, we entered into an agreement with Alcatel Lucent for the purchase of our Carrier Ethernet network. We also agreed to purchase from Alcatel Lucent at least 51% of the equipment and services that we purchase for such network until the lapse of 7 years from final acceptance (until February 2017). Alcatel Lucent is obligated to offer us maintenance services for 12 years from conditional acceptance (until January 2022). Under the agreement, the parties generally have limited liability for direct damages of up to the value of the agreement.

To supplement our transmission network, we lease a limited amount of transmission capacity from Bezeq, the incumbent landline operator. Netvision owns a small transmission network and leases most of the transmission capacity it requires from us, Bezeq, Hot and Partner.

Information technology

We maintain a variety of information systems that enable us to deliver superior customer service while enhancing our internal processes.

In July 2010, we entered into an agreement with Amdocs (Israel) Limited, or Amdocs Israel, for the provision of operation, maintenance, management and development services for our billing and customer care system, which were previously performed partly by Amdocs UK and Amdocs Israel and partly by our employees. Amdocs Israel is obligated to provide us with such services for a period of eight years (until August 2018) and after 30 months from entering into this agreement and until August 2016 we have an option to terminate the agreement subject to the delivery of a prior written notice and payment of certain amounts decreasing over time. Under the agreement, the parties generally have limited liability for direct damages of up to the value of the agreement for each year subject to certain additional exceptions to the limitation.

Netvision uses a billing system supported internally and by Intec and a customer care system provided by PeopleSoft and supported by Matrix for Oracle.

We use Nortel's CTI system for the management of incoming calls to our telephonic call centers.

Our customer care system presents our customer care employees with a display of a subscriber's profile based on various usage patterns. This enables us to provide a service based upon information for that particular subscriber. We also use a knowledge management system relating to our various services and products by Aman, branded "Cellclopedia".

We use ERP solutions provided by SAP, and Netvision uses ERP solutions provided by Priority. We use a data warehouse based on an Oracle data base system and various data mining tools, ETL by Informatica and reports generated by Cognos. The data warehouse

Table of Contents

contains data on our subscribers' usage and allows for various analytical segmentation of the data.

Sales and Marketing

Sales

As part of our strategy to fully penetrate every part of the Israeli market, we try to make the purchase of our services as easy and as accessible as possible, while making our sales lineup more cost efficient. Our efforts to adjust our sales operation with the changing market conditions includes closing and uniting points of sale and elimination of duplicates and transfer to more cost effective channels such as the reduction of door to door sales and increase of telephonic sales. We offer pricing plans, value-added services, handsets, accessories and related services through a broad network of direct and indirect sales personnel. We design pricing plans and promotional campaigns aimed at attracting new subscribers and enhancing our ability to retain our existing subscribers. We offer our subscribers rebates and other benefits for handset purchases. Before January, 1, 2013, these rebates were mainly in cellular services. We pay our independent dealers commissions on sales, while our direct, employee sales personnel receive base salaries plus performance-based incentives. All of our, and our dealers', sales and other customer-facing stuff, go through extensive training prior to commencing their work. Our distribution and sales efforts for subscribers are conducted primarily through five channels:

Points of sale. We distribute our products and services through a broad network of physical points of sale providing us with nationwide coverage of our existing and potential subscriber base.

We operate directly, using our sales force and service personnel, in approximately 30 physical points of sale and service, after closing 5 points of sale and service in 2012 and the beginning of 2013, mostly located in shopping centers and other frequently visited locations to provide our subscribers with easy and convenient access to our products and services. We may close additional walk-in centers in 2013.

We also distribute our products and services indirectly through a chain of dozens of dealers (including our own wholly owned dealer – Dynamica) who operate in approximately 120 points of sale throughout Israel. Our dealers are compensated for each sale based on qualitative and quantitative measures. We closely monitor the quality of service provided to our subscribers by our dealers. In our efforts to penetrate certain sectors of our potential subscriber base, we select dealers with proven expertise in marketing to such sectors.

Telephonic and door-to-door sales. Telephonic sales efforts target existing and potential subscribers who are interested in buying or upgrading handsets and services. Our sales representatives (both in-house and outsourced) offer our customers a variety of products and services, both in proactive and reactive interactions. The door-to-door sales team target the door-to-door subscribers based on market surveys that we regularly conduct and database analysis. In 2012 we reduced our door-to-door efforts and switched to more efficient sales channels such as the telephonic sales.

Account managers. Our direct sales force for our business customers maintains regular contact with our medium and large accounts, focusing on sales of cellular and wireline services, customer retention and tailor-made solutions for the specific needs

Table of Contents

of such customers. We are in the process of restructuring our service to small and medium business customers in further reliance on telephone account managers. Sales to larger business customers or governmental and local authorities sometimes involve participation in the customer's tender process.

Internet Sales – We offer our customers the ability to purchase our products and services through our internet site and our smartphone application and invest efforts in directing our customers towards self service channels.

Marketing

Our marketing strategy emphasizes our market leader position, our value for money to families and small businesses and the offering of a comprehensive solution to their communication needs in such plans as our successful "Cellcom Total" pricing plan, combining a package of unlimited voice and SMS usage, cellular data , ISP, landline and ILD services for families and "Cellcom Total for Businesses" combining a package of unlimited voice and SMS usage, cellular data , extended repair services, IP switchboard, ISP, landline and ILD services for the office for small and medium businesses. We aim to provide our customers a comprehensive quality experience through the various means of communications that they use, including their mobile handset, tablet and laptop. Alongside our focus on Unlimited Packages for a fixed sum, we have substantially reduced the number of calling plans available to our customers, thus reducing the back office operation.

From surveys that we conduct from time to time, we learn that subscribers base their choice of cellular provider primarily on the following parameters: general brand perception; perceived price of services and handsets; level of customer service; perceived quality of the network; and selection of handsets and their compatibility with their needs. Our marketing activities take into consideration these parameters and we invest efforts to preserve our subscriber base and attract new subscribers.

We leverage our extensive interactions with our customers to provide the requested services and also to cross- and up-sell cellular and wireline products and services according to customer needs usage trends and profitability, mostly by using advanced CRM models, to increase customer satisfaction, loyalty and revenues.

We regularly advertise in all forms of media, including in promotional campaigns. We also use "one to one" promotional campaigns such as advertisements in our subscribers' monthly bill and in incoming IVR. Our marketing and branding campaign has been very successful and highly acclaimed among the Israeli public. The campaign promoting "Cellcom Total" pricing plan, focusing on the comprehensive solution proposed for the family, was ranked four times "the most liked commercial of the week" in a survey conducted weekly by "Globes", a leading business newspaper in Israel. In addition, the Netvision campaign, launched at the beginning of 2013, focusing on Netvision's customer service and customer satisfaction, was also ranked "the most liked commercial of the week" by the same survey. We believe that the success and public response that the campaigns generated, is the result of the relevancy of their messages to our customers, indicating the success of our focus and differentiation from our competitors.

Cellcom was ranked by Globes as the leading and strongest brand of Israel's communications market in 2012 for the second year in a row. According to an annual survey conducted in 2011 by 'The-Marker', an Israeli business newspaper, we were the only cellular

Table of Contents

operator to improve its ranking compared with previous year's results and were placed in the leading position in the cellular sector. We believe that our strong brand recognition gives us the high level of market exposure required to help us achieve our business objectives.

Customer Care

Our customer service unit is our main channel for preserving the long-term relationship with our subscribers. We focus on customer retention through the provision of quality service and customer care. In order to achieve this goal, we systematically monitor and analyze our subscribers' preferences, characteristics and trends by developing and analyzing sophisticated databases. We then adopt services that are aimed to respond to subscribers' needs and preferences. In addition, subscribers are encouraged to subscribe to additional value-added services, mobile data and content services as well other communications services such as ISP, landline and ILD services, in order to enhance customer satisfaction and increase ARPU, with a specific focus on bundles of services. We invest large resources in the quality of our service to our customers. Our customer care representatives receive extensive training before they begin providing service and thereafter regularly undergo training and review of their performance. We provide our customer care representatives with a continually updated database, thus shortening the interaction time required to satisfy the customer's needs and preventing human errors and closely monitor the service provided by them, in order to assure its quality. We constantly review our performance by reviewing customers applications and conducting surveys among our subscribers in order to ensure their satisfaction with our services and to improve them as necessary. In addition, we constantly apply preventive and preemptive measures aimed at reducing churn.

According to the leading Israeli consumer organizations "Public Trust" and the Israeli Consumers Council reports for each of the years 2009, 2010 and 2011, we provide the best quality of customer care in the Israeli cellular market and received the lowest rate of customer complaints even though we have the highest number of subscribers in the Israeli cellular market.

According to Ministry of Communications report for 2010 and 2011, published in March 2012, we have the lowest justified complaint rate among cellular operators, in both 2010 and 2011.

In our efforts to adjust our costs to the new market conditions we have closed or unified walk in centers in neighboring locations, reduced call centers and changed the location of others, operating them in a more cost effective fashion, while placing greater focus on self- service channels. In order to respond to subscribers' needs in the most efficient manner, our customer support and service network offers several channels for our subscribers:

Call centers. In order to provide quick and efficient responses to the different needs of our various subscribers, our call-center services are divided into several sub-centers: general services; technical services; billing; sales; international roaming; and data and internet. The call center services are provided in four languages: Hebrew, Arabic, English and Russian. We regularly monitor the performance of our call centers. We currently operate call centers in eight locations throughout Israel, three of which are outsourced. In 2012 we witnessed a decrease in calls to our calls centers. During peak hours our call centers have the capability to respond to 600 customer

Table of Contents

calls simultaneously. We are making efforts to reduce the number of calls to our call centers by offering simple price plans and promoting our self service channels.

Walk-in centers. As of December 31, 2012, we independently operated approximately 30 service and sales centers after closing 5 points of sale and service in 2012 and the beginning of 2013, with approximately 120 additional sale and service points operated by our dealers (including our wholly owned dealer - Dynamica), covering almost all the populated areas of Israel. We may close additional walk-in centers in 2013. These centers provide a walk-in contact channel and offer the entire spectrum of products and services that we provide to our subscribers and potential subscribers (the majority of which are provided in our dealers' sale and service points as well), including handset sales, accessories sales (by our wholly owned dealer Dynamica), upgrades and other services, such as bill payment, pricing plan changes and subscriptions to new services. These stores are mostly located in central locations, such as popular shopping malls. Our walk-in centers also serve as a contact point for our subscribers who need repair services. Our subscribers deposit their handsets for repair in our walk-in centers and receive the repaired handset after two business days in the same center or at a location of their choice by a courier. The repair services are conducted in a central lab.

Self-services. We provide our subscribers and potential subscribers with various self-service channels, such as interactive voice response, or IVR, web-based services, automatic and live chat and mobile phone application where they can receive general and specific information, including pricing plans, account balance, information regarding our various services and products and trouble shooting and handset-operation. We invest efforts in directing our customers to use self-service channels.

Our business sales force and back office personnel also provide customer care to our business customers. We are in the process of restructuring our service to small and medium business customers to further rely on telephone account managers. We offer our business customers repair services by a dispatch service collecting and returning the repaired handset within two business days, during which time, the customer is provided with a substitute handset, free of charge.

All of our service channels are monitored and analyzed regularly in order to assure the quality of our services and to identify areas where we can improve.

We constantly invest time and efforts making our services compatible to persons with disabilities. We provide customers with disabilities convenient accessibility to our premises and adapted products and services, well beyond the requirements of the law, including sign language customer care at our walk-in services, free dispatch services, and the option to receive sales and support services in the customer's home. We work closely with Accessibility Israel, a leading Israeli non-profit organization advancing accessibility for persons with disabilities in Israel and train our representatives to provide accessible service to all our customers.

Be'eri Printers provides our printing supplies and invoices as well as the distribution, packaging and delivery of invoices and other mail to the postal service distribution centers. We entered into an agreement with Be'eri Printers - Limited Partnership and with Be'eri Technologies (1977) Ltd., or together Be'eri, for printing services in August 2003. Under the terms of the agreement, we committed to purchase from Be'eri a minimum monthly quantity

Table of Contents

of production and distribution services which may be reduced if we modify our printed invoice delivery policy. The agreement is valid until December 2013.

Competition

There is intense competition in all aspects of the cellular communications market in Israel, which intensified further in 2012, and we expect this to continue in the future, due to the highly penetrated state of our market and new competition, aided by regulatory changes. We currently compete for market and revenue share with seven other cellular communications operators: four MNOs (Partner, Pelephone, Hot Mobile and Golan) and three MVNOs (Rami Levy , Home Cellular and Alon Cellular). For details of changes of ownership in the Israeli communications market since 2009, see "Item 4. Information on The Company - Business Overview - The Telecommunications Industry in Israel - Cellular Services".

Our estimated market share based on number of subscribers was approximately 31.9% as of December 31, 2012. Estimated market shares at such time of Partner, Pelephone, Hot Mobile and Golan were approximately 29.5%, 28%, 7.6% and 1.8%, respectively and the MVNOs' market share is estimated to be 1.2%.

The competition in the cellular communications market increased following the launch of Pelephone's UMTS/HSPA network in 2009 and regulatory and other changes in our market. The competition has intensified following the compulsory reduction of cellular Early Termination Fees to a negligible amount in February 2011 (and their subsequent annulment), which eliminated the transfer barrier between operators and the formation of communications groups. The intensified competition led to the offering of packages at lower average prices per minute, resulting in accelerated price erosion, a materially increased churn rate, and increased subscriber acquisition and retention costs due to a materially increased rate of gross recruitment of subscribers. In May 2012, the competition further drastically intensified following the entry of additional cellular operators to the market, specifically the launch of two new UMTS operations by Hot Mobile and Golan, without having to first invest in building their own network and using national roaming on Pelephone's and our networks (respectively) and aiming to win market share in the private sector as quickly as possible by introducing significantly lower tariffs than market level at that time (as their respective commitments to pay the license fee which amounts to approximately NIS 705 and 360 million, respectively, would be reduced to an immaterial amount, and the bank guarantees of their commitments would be returned to them, if they respectively gain a 7% market share in the private sector (taking into consideration subscribers, revenues and minutes of use market shares) within 5 years. This has caused a substantial decrease of prices made by all competitors, including us. As a result, and in an attempt to increase customers acquisition rate and gain market share, Golan and Hot Mobile have offered even lower tariffs, including free of charge Unlimited Packages for a limited period of time (up to four months), which were matched by other operators in the fourth quarter of 2012 and the beginning of 2013. This has led to a material increase in the churn rate, price erosion (due in part to substantial transfer of prepaid customers to postpaid pricing plans) and a material decrease in revenues and profitability for us.

Competition may intensify further as a result of the occurrence of any of the events described under "Item 3. Key Information – D. Risk Factors – Risks related to our Business – We face intense competition in all aspects of our business".

Table of Contents

In the handsets market, we are competing with numerous vendors, chain stores and importers' stores. Recent regulatory decisions, alleviating the regulatory requirements on the import to and the sale of handsets in Israel, coupled with regulatory decisions preventing cellular operators from making any linkage between handsets sale and cellular services, led to the entry of additional competitors into the market, to significantly increased competition and decreased sales for us. See "Item 4. Information on The Company - Government Regulations – Tariff Supervision" for additional details.

We believe that full and comprehensive mobile and wireline solutions would benefit our competitive standing, and are therefore focusing extensive marketing and sales efforts on bundles of cellular and wireline services. The principal competitive factors in the cellular market include general brand perception, perceived price, customer service and handset selection. In addition, mobile data and other value-added services constitute a potential growth engine for increasing revenues from subscribers and are also an important factor in selecting a cellular provider.

In the content provision market, we compete also with international media providers and handsets manufacturers, such as Apple, Google and Nokia, who have opened their own content enabling stores and have changed the traditional role of the cellular operator from the content provider into one of many content providers, competing to provide content to the operator's subscribers. The "Open Garden" international trend was facilitated by technological changes allowing high speed internet surfing and supporting handsets and has changed customers' consumption habits from surfing and downloading content mainly through the cellular operator's portal, to an off-portal surfing and content downloading as well as growing demand for internet surfing and content in general. In addition, the regulatory changes which requires us to block by default content purchasing by our subscribers and allow it only upon a customer's request, resulted in a substantial decrease in our revenues from content in 2012.

In the wireline communications market, in May 2012, the Israeli Minister of Communications published a policy document adopting the main recommendations of a public committee previously appointed by the Ministry to examine Bezeq's tariffs structure and tariffs for wireline wholesale services and to review the possible annulment of the structural limitations currently imposed on Bezeq and its subsidiaries. The policy includes mainly the following: (1) An effective wholesale telecommunications access markets in Israel will be created, as Bezeq and Hot will allow other operators that do not own an infrastructure, to use their infrastructure in order to provide services to end users. (2) The structural separation between an owner of wireline infrastructure and its international landline operator and internet service provider affiliates shall be annulled within nine months from the date of execution of an agreement between such owner of wireline infrastructure and another operator which has a significant market share and shall be replaced by an accounting separation, unless the Minister of Communications finds that such annulment may considerably harm the competition or the public. The Minister of Communications shall consider providing leniencies in relation to or annulment of the structural separation between an owner of wireline infrastructure and its cellular operator affiliate according to the pace of development of a wholesale market and the state of competition in the market. In case an effective wholesale market does not develop within twenty four months from the date of the policy document, the Ministry of Communications shall act to impose a structural separation in the owners of the wireline infrastructure between the infrastructure and the services provided through this infrastructure. (3) The Minister of Communications shall annul the structural separation in relation to

Table of Contents

television broadcasting services if there is a reasonable possibility to provide a basic package of television services through the internet by providers without a national landline infrastructure. The Minister of Communications shall consider imposing a requirement to provide television broadcasting services for the same price within a package of telecommunications services and separately. (4) Change of the supervision on Bezeq retail tariffs to setting maximum tariffs rather than the current setting of fixed tariffs within six months from the date of execution of an agreement between Bezeq and another operator. (5) The wholesale market's tariffs and terms of agreement shall be agreed through negotiations between the owners of the wireline infrastructure (Bezeq and Hot) and the other operators. An infrastructure owner that reaches an agreement with such other operator shall be obligated to offer the same terms, without discrimination, to all operators, including its affiliates. The Ministry of Communications shall intervene in the negotiations or in the terms of the agreement between the parties in case an agreement has not been reached within six months from the date of the policy document or in case the agreement between the parties includes terms that may harm the competition or the public or other operator's affairs. In addition, the Ministry of Communications may intervene in a retail tariff that was set by the owner of wireline infrastructure or its affiliate that may harm the competition, through changing of the wholesale tariff. We are negotiating with Bezeq the terms of such wholesale agreement. Partner has already reached some understandings with Bezeq and in February 2013, Xfone Communications, an ILD operator that does not have a significant market share, announced entering a wholesale agreement with Bezeq.

In February 2013, the Ministry of Communications published a hearing regarding interconnect tariffs payable to land line operators in which the Ministry of Communications recommends its reduction by approximately 70% (to NIS 0.0104). The Ministry of Communications noted that the cost model created for that purpose will be used to examine wholesale services costs as well.

In February 2010, the Ministry of Communications provided a trial license to the IEC, allowing it to use its fiber optic infrastructure to provide transmission services to other operators. In January 2013, the IEC was formally allowed to engage in communication activity by the Ministry of Finance and in February 2013, received the approvals of the Israeli Ministry of Energy and Water to do so. In March 2011, the Israeli government approved the establishment of a new communications company that will be granted the exclusive right to use the IEC's optic fibers infrastructure for the provision of broadband services to operators only, but the Ministry of Communications may allow it to offer its services directly to certain large business customers. The new company will be controlled by a private investor, which may not hold any means of control in another communications company, and IEC will own the minority stake in this new company. This initiative would increase our and our competitors capabilities to compete in the wireline market with Bezeq and Hot, and would increase competition in the wireline market. The IEC is expected to begin deployment of its network at the end of 2013.

While an effective wholesale wireline market will enhance our ability (including through Netvision) to compete and extend our service offering, the recommendations regarding the structural separation and Bezeq's tariffs supervision, which were liaised together by the Ministry of communications' policy, may have a material adverse effect on our competitive capabilities and results of operation. For further details see below in this Item 4. B. under the "NETVISION". See also "Item 3. Risk Factors – Risks related to our wholly owned subsidiary Netvision – Changes in regulatory environment could adversely affect Netvision's business" for risks relating to our landline operations and our ability to grow in that market.

In response to the enhanced competition in our market and in the Israeli telecommunications market in general, we have implemented various steps and strategies, including:

Table of Contents

- acquiring Netvision to create a competitive communications group and offering comprehensive bundles of mobile and wireline solutions, such as the very successful "Cellcom Total" price plan.
- investing significant resources in customer service and retention, as well as supporting information technology systems;
 - introducing innovative value-added services and data products;
- taking aggressive efficiency measures through adjustments to the existing head count, a reduction in overhead expenses and improvement of work processes, in order to reduce costs and improve our agility;
- investing in our network technology to ensure our ability to offer quality services and advanced services, both cellular and wireline services;
- offering attractive pricing plans to subscribers, including cross sale and up sale of our and Netvision's services; and
- identifying new opportunities to maximize our advantages as a cellular operator, such as the offering of NFC based cellular credit card services which we intend to offer in 2013 and maximizing our advantages as a communications group, such as by providing television services over the internet, a solution we have been developing and may decide to launch.

Our ability to compete successfully will depend, in part, on our ability to anticipate and respond to trends and events affecting the industry, including: the introduction of new services and technologies, changes in consumer preferences, demographic trends, economic conditions, pricing strategies of competitors and changes to the legal and regulatory environment. We believe that we are well positioned for the competition in our market.

Intellectual Property

We are a member of the GSM Association, together with other worldwide operators that use GSM technology. As a member of the association, we are entitled to use its intellectual property rights, including the GSM logo and trademark.

We have registered approximately 30 domain names and approximately 120 trademarks, the most important of which are the star design, "Cellcom", "Talkman" and "Cellcom Volume". Netvision has registered approximately 90 domain names and approximately 65 trademarks, the most important of which are "Netvision" and "013 Netvision". We are also the proprietor of a few registered patents.

Government Regulations

The following is a description of various regulatory matters which are material to our operations, including certain future legislative initiatives which are in the process of being enacted. There is no certainty that the future legislation described here will be enacted or whether it will be subject to further change before its final enactment.

Table of Contents

General

A significant part of our operations is regulated by the Israeli Communications Law, 1982, the regulations promulgated under the Communications Law and the provisions of our licenses, which were granted by the Israeli Ministry of Communications pursuant to the Communications Law. We are required by law to have a general license in order to provide cellular communications services in Israel. The Ministry of Communications has broad supervisory powers in connection with the operations of license holders and is authorized, among other things, to impose financial penalties for violations of the Communications Law, the regulations and our licenses. For a description of the principal licenses held by Netvision see below in this Item 4.B under the caption "NETVISION".

Our Principal License

The establishment and operation of a cellular communications network requires a license pursuant to the Communications Law for telecommunications operations and services and pursuant to the Israeli Wireless Telegraph Ordinance (New Version), 1972, for the allocation of spectrum and installation and operation of a cellular network.

We provide our cellular services under a non-exclusive general license granted to us by the Ministry of Communications in June 1994, which requires us to provide cellular services in the State of Israel to anyone wishing to subscribe. The license expires on January 31, 2022, but may be extended by the Ministry of Communications for successive periods of six years, provided that we have complied with the license and applicable law, have continuously invested in the improvement of our service and network and have demonstrated the ability to continue to do so in the future. The main provisions of the license are as follows:

- The license may be modified, cancelled, conditioned or restricted by the Ministry of Communications in certain instances, including: if required to ensure the level of services we provide; if a breach of a material term of the license occurs; if DIC (or a transferee or transferees, if approved by the Ministry of Communications), in its capacity as our founding shareholder, holds, directly or indirectly, less than 26% of our means of control; if our founding shareholders who are Israeli citizens and residents hold, directly or indirectly, less than 20% of our means of control (DIC, as founding shareholder, has undertaken to comply with this condition); if at least 20% of our directors are not appointed by Israeli citizens and residents from among our founding shareholders or if less than a majority of our directors are Israeli citizens and residents; if any of our managers or directors is convicted of a crime of moral turpitude and continues to serve; if we commit an act or omission that adversely affects or limits competition in the cellular communications market; or if we and our 10% or greater shareholders fail to maintain combined shareholders' equity of at least \$200 million. For the purpose of the license, "means of control" is defined as voting rights, the right to appoint a director or general manager, the right to participate in distributions, or the right to participate in distributions upon liquidation;
- It is prohibited to acquire (alone or together with relatives or with other parties who collaborate on a regular basis) or transfer our shares, directly or indirectly (including by way of creating a pledge which if foreclosed, will result in

Table of Contents

the transfer of shares), in one transaction or a series of transactions, if such acquisition or transfer will result in a holding or transfer of 10% or more of any of our means of control, or to transfer any of our means of control if as a result of such transfer, control over our company will be transferred from one party to another, without the prior approval of the Ministry of Communications. For the purpose of the license, “control” is defined as the direct or indirect ability to direct our operations whether this ability arises from our articles of association, from written or oral agreement or from holding any means of control or otherwise, other than from holding the position of director or officer;

- It is prohibited for any of our office holders or anyone holding more than 5% of our means of control, to hold, directly or indirectly, more than 5% of the means of control in Bezeq or another cellular operator in Israel, or, for any of the foregoing to serve as an office holder of one of our competitors, subject to certain exceptions requiring the prior approval of the Ministry of Communications;
- We, our office holders and our interested parties may not be parties to any arrangement whatsoever with Bezeq or another cellular operator that is intended or is likely to restrict or harm competition in the field of cellular services, cellular handsets or other cellular services. For the purpose of the license, an “interested party” is defined as a 5% or greater holder of any means of control;
- We are subject to the guidelines of Israel’s General Security Services, which may include requirements that certain office holders and holders of certain other positions be Israeli citizens and residents with security clearance. For example, our Board of Directors is required to appoint a committee to deal with matters concerning state security. Only directors who have the requisite security clearance by Israel’s General Security Services may be members of this committee. In addition, the Minister of Communications is entitled under our license to appoint a state employee with security clearance to act as an observer in all meetings of our Board of Directors and its committees;
- Prior to operating a network, we are required to have agreements with a manufacturer of cellular network equipment for the duration of its intended operating period, which must include, among other things, a know-how agreement and an agreement guaranteeing the supply of spare parts for our network equipment for a period of at least seven years;
- We are required to interconnect our network to other public telecommunications networks in Israel, on equal terms and without discrimination, in order to enable subscribers of all operators to communicate with one another; we are also required to provide national roaming services to new UMTS operators;
- We may not give preference in providing infrastructure services to a license holder that is an affiliated company over other license holders, whether in payment for services, conditions or availability of services or in any other

Table of Contents

manner, other than in specific circumstances and subject to the approval of the Ministry of Communications;

- The license sets forth the general types of payments that we may collect from our subscribers, the general mechanisms for setting tariffs, providing cellular services related benefits, limitations on raising tariffs (for non-business subscribers under obligation to purchase our services for a predefined period, during such period), and on the duration of a non-business subscriber's obligation to purchase our services, the reports that we must submit to the Ministry of Communications and the obligation to provide notice to our customers and the Ministry of Communications prior to changing tariffs. The Ministry of Communications is authorized to intervene in setting tariffs in certain instances;
- The license requires us to maintain a minimum standard of customer service, including, among other things, establishing call centers, maintaining a certain service level of our network, collecting payments pursuant to a certain procedure, protecting the privacy of subscribers; using a specific format for our agreement with our customers; to obtain an explicit request from our subscribers to purchase services, whether by us or by third parties, as a precondition to providing and charging for such services, including specific requirements as to format and a default blockage of the customer's ability to purchase certain services; to maintain a specific form of evidence of customers' request to purchase our services as a precondition to charging our customers for those services, notifications we must provide them regarding the services ordered and the procedures for handling subscribers' objections as to billing and repayment of overcharged sums;
- The license or any part thereof may not be transferred, pledged or encumbered without the prior approval of the Ministry of Communications. The license also sets forth restrictions on the sale, lease or pledge of any assets used for implementing the license;
- We are required to obtain insurance coverage for our cellular activities. In March 2010 a purported class action was filed against us in that regard and subsequently dismissed. In addition, the license imposes statutory liability for any loss or damage caused to a third party as a result of establishing, sustaining, maintaining or operating our cellular network. We have further undertaken to indemnify the State of Israel for any monetary obligation imposed on the State of Israel in the event of such loss or damage. For the purpose of guaranteeing our obligations under the license, we have deposited a bank guarantee in the amount of \$10 million with the Ministry of Communications, which may be forfeited in the event that we violate the terms of our license.

In the event that we violate the terms of our license, we may be subject to substantial penalties, including monetary sanctions. In August 2012, the Communications Law was amended so as to set gradual financial sanctions on communication operators, for breach of their licenses, the sum of which shall be calculated as a percentage of the operator's income and based on the gravity of the breach. The maximum amount per violation that may be imposed is approximately NIS 1.6 million plus 0.225% of our annual revenue for the

Table of Contents

preceding year. The Ministry of Communications published criteria to be used for determining the sum of the imposed sanctions. Those include the impact on the competition, the duration of the violation, the number of subscribers affected, the benefit to the operator from the violation and prior violations. This amendment is expected to substantially increase the Ministry of Communications' usage of such sanctions. Substantial sanctions will harm our results of operations. In the event that we materially violate the terms of our licenses, the Ministry of Communications has the authority to revoke them.

Other Licenses

Special general license for the provision of landline communications services

In April 2006, Cellcom Fixed Line Communications L.P., or Cellcom Fixed Line, a limited partnership wholly-owned by us, was granted a non-exclusive special general license for the provision of landline telephone communications services. The license expires in 2026 but may be extended by the Ministry of Communications for successive periods of 10 years. We began providing landline telephone services in July 2006, concentrating on offering landline telephone services to selected businesses. The partnership deposited a bank guarantee in the amount of NIS 10 million with the Ministry of Communications upon receiving the license. The provisions of our general license described above, including as to its extension, generally apply to this license, subject to certain modifications. It should be noted that in addition to any 10% share transfer requiring the prior approval of the Ministry of Communications as noted in our general license, the special general license additionally requires prior approval for acquiring the ability to effect a significant influence over us. In this context, holding 25% of our means of control is presumed to confer significant influence.

Data and Transmission License

In 2000, we were granted a non-exclusive special license for the provision of local data communications services and high-speed transmission services, which is effective until December 2017. Following the grant of a special general license for the provision of landline telephone communications services to Cellcom Fixed Line, which also includes the services previously provided through our data and transmission license, our data and transmission license was amended in June 2006 to permit only Cellcom Fixed Line to be our customer of these services (and these services are now being provided to our customers through Cellcom Fixed Line). The provisions of our general and general specific licenses described above, including as to their extension, generally apply to this license, subject to certain modifications.

Services in Judea and Samaria

The Israeli Civil Administration in Judea and Samaria granted us non-exclusive licenses for the provision of cellular and landline services to the Israeli-populated areas in Judea and Samaria. Those licenses are effective until December 31, 2013. We expect we will be able to renew this license without undue burden. The provisions of the cellular and landline licenses described above, including as to its extension, generally apply to those licenses, subject to certain modifications.

Internet Service Provider license

In December 2001, we were granted a non-exclusive special internet services provider, or ISP, license for the provision of internet access services. The license expires in

Table of Contents

2013 but may be extended by the Ministry of Communications for successive periods of five years. We expect we will be able to renew this license without undue burden. The provisions regarding the transfer of our shares which are included in the special license for the provision of data and transmission services described above, generally apply to this license.

Possible unified license

In February 2013, the Ministry of Communications announced its intention to replace the current special general license for the provision of landline communications services, the general license for the provision of international telecommunication services and the MVNO license, with a unified license, which will allow its holder to provide any of those services as well as ISP services (currently provided under an internet service provider license) and installation and maintenance of telecommunication equipment at a customer's or the licensee's premises (currently provided under a 'network end point' license).

Tariff Supervision

Under the Israeli Communications Regulations (Telecommunications and Broadcasting) (Payment for Interconnecting), 2000, interconnect tariffs among landline operators, international call operators and cellular operators are subject to regulation and have been gradually decreased, leading to a material decrease in our revenues.

In September 2010, the regulations were amended as follows:

- the maximum interconnect tariff payable by a landline operator or a cellular operator for the completion of a call on another Israeli cellular network was reduced from the previous tariff of NIS 0.251 per minute to NIS 0.0687 per minute from January 1, 2011; to 0.0634 per minute from January 1, 2012; to NIS 0.0591 per minute from January 1, 2013; and to NIS 0.0555 from January 1, 2014;
- the maximum interconnect tariff payable by a cellular operator for sending an SMS message to another Israeli cellular network was reduced from the previous tariff of NIS 0.0285 to NIS 0.0016 from January 1, 2011; to NIS 0.0015 from January 1, 2012; to NIS 0.0014 from January 1, 2013; and to NIS 0.0013 from January 1, 2014;
- the tariffs do not include VAT and will be updated annually from January 1, 2011, based on the change in the Israeli CPI published in November of the year preceding the update date from the average annual Israeli CPI for 2009. The tariffs will also be increased by the percentage of royalties payable to the Ministry of Communications by the operator.

As a result of these updates, the current maximum interconnect tariffs are NIS 0.0643 per minute for the completion of a call on another cellular network and NIS 0.0015 for a completion of an SMS message to another cellular network.

This reduction had a material adverse effect on our results of operation in 2011 and 2012 which is expected to continue. For details on the effects of the reduction see Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects. – A. Operating Results – Overview – General.

In February 2013, the Ministry of Communications published a hearing regarding interconnect tariffs payable to land line operators in which the Ministry of Communications recommends its reduction by approximately 70% (to NIS 0.0104).

Under these regulations and our license, commencing January 1, 2009, our basic airtime charging units, including for interconnect purposes, were changed from twelve-second units to one-second units. Our general license also prevents

us from offering our subscribers pricing plans using airtime charging units other than the basic airtime charging unit.

Table of Contents

In July 2009, the Ministry of Communications amended our license, effective November 1, 2009, in a manner that prohibits any linkage between a cellular services transaction and a handset purchase transaction, thus requiring us to offer any cellular services-related benefits offered to a customer purchasing a handset from us to any customer who purchased the handset elsewhere. In March 2012, the Communications Law was amended so as to prohibit cellular operators to make any linkage between a cellular services transaction and a handset purchase transaction, including by way of offering airtime rebates or refunds for handsets, as of January 1, 2013. This may result in further decreased sales of handsets by us and increased churn.

In June 2007, the European Union adopted a resolution to reduce and regulate roaming tariffs. In August 2008, the Israeli Government adopted a resolution to negotiate a reduction of inbound and outbound roaming tariffs with the European Union and/or members of the European Union or countries frequently visited by Israelis. In November 2008 and again in January 2012 the Ministry of Communications issued a supplemental request for information, following its request in 2007, requesting us to provide information in relation to our roaming services. The requests for information were made in order to evaluate the need for intervention in roaming tariffs. In January 2013, the Ministry of Communications published a hearing proposing restrictions on roaming services provision. For further details see "We operate in a heavily regulated industry, which can harm our results of operations" above. If the Ministry of Communications decides to intervene in the pricing of roaming services, this could reduce the revenues we derive from our roaming services.

In December 2010, the Communications Law was amended to reduce the Early Termination Fees in the cellular market. In accordance with the amendment, as of February 1, 2011, Early Termination Fees were calculated based on the subscriber's average monthly bill, resulting in a negligible fee. The reduced Early Termination Fees apply to customers with less than a certain amount of phone lines. The reduction applied to existing as well as new pricing plans. An additional amendment prohibits the collection of the handset's remaining installments in one payment pursuant to early termination. As of January 2011, we changed our new pricing plans so that the majority of which do not include a commitment to a predefined period nor an Early Termination Fee. In August 2011, the Communications Law was amended to annul Early Termination Fees in all other communications markets. In March 2012 the Communication Law was amended so as to completely annul Early Termination Fees in relation to new cellular customers with less than a certain number of phone lines (applying retroactively as of November 2011). The reduction of Early Termination Fees has led to the offering of packages at lower average revenue per minute and resulted in accelerated price erosion, materially increased churn rate and increased subscriber acquisition and retention costs due to materially increased rate of gross recruitment of subscribers.

In December 2010, the Communications Law was amended to allow national roaming for new operators and Hot Mobile. For additional details see "Additional UMTS operators" below. Following the amendment, if a new operator or Hot Mobile and the hosting operator have not reached an agreement as to the terms of the service (including the consideration), for any reason, until the service is to commence (after certain criteria is met) the service will be provided for the then prevailing interconnect tariff (in case of a call and for data services - 65% of the interconnect tariff per 1 mega) and subsequently (but no later than February 1, 2012) shall be determined by the Ministry of Communications with the consent of the Minister of Finance and applied retroactively. Unfavorable terms and consideration for the

Table of Contents

service, may result in material adverse effect on our results of operations. In October 2011, we entered a national roaming agreement with Golan and in September 2011, Hot Mobile entered a national roaming agreement with Pelephone.

Under the Communications Law, in the event that a MVNO and the cellular operator, will not have reached an agreement as to the provision of service by way of MVNO within six months from the date the MVNO has approached the cellular operator, and if the Ministry of Communications together with the Ministry of Finance determine that the failure to reach an agreement is due to unreasonable conditions imposed by the cellular operator, the Ministry of Communications may intervene in the terms of the agreement, including by setting the price of the service. Unfavorable terms and consideration for the service, may result in material adverse effect on our results of operations. For additional details see "Mobile Virtual Network Operators" below. In 2011 five MVNOs have entered into hosting agreements, one of which (Home Cellular) has entered into an agreement with us. To date, three MVNOs commenced operations and one of them is hosted by us.

In December 2010, the Communications Law was amended to prevent any limitation on the usage of any internet service or application, including though differentiating pricing, (network neutrality).

In August 2012, the Consumer Protection Law was amended, effective January 1, 2013, in a manner that obligates us to pay our customers predetermined damages for each discrepancy from the customer's pricing plan, remedied after the customer complained. The damages are in an insignificant amount, but may aggregate to substantial amounts if paid to numerous customers on multiple occasions.

In January 2012, the Ministry of Communications published a hearing proposing restrictions on the provision of roaming services, including default blockage of the data roaming service to be opened only upon the customer's request and automatic blockage of all roaming services to be reopened again upon such request each time the customer reaches a certain usage threshold. The hearing further proposed applying certain notification procedures. The adoption of the proposed changes may have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

Permits for Cell Site Construction

General

In order to provide and improve network coverage to our subscribers, we depend on cell sites located throughout Israel. The regulation of cell site construction and operation are primarily set forth in the Israeli National Zoning Plan 36 for Communications, which was published in May 2002. The construction of radio access devices, which are cell sites of smaller dimensions, is further regulated in the Communications Law.

The construction and operation of cell sites are subject to permits from various government entities and related bodies, including:

- building permits from the local planning and building committee or the local licensing authority (if no exemption is available);
- approvals for construction and operation from the Commissioner of Environmental Radiation of the Ministry of Environmental Protection;

Table of Contents

- permits from the Civil Aviation Authority (in most cases);
- permits from the Israel Defense Forces (in certain cases); and
- other specific permits necessary where applicable, such as for cell sites on water towers or agricultural land.

In March 2010, a new Planning and Building bill, intended to replace the existing Planning and Building law passed the first stage of enactment at the Israeli parliament. If the bill would be enacted, it may have an effect, among others, on current permits for our cell sites, the procedures to receive building permits for our cell sites, the exemption for radio access devices set out in the Communications Law (which the bill proposed to annul), the scope of our indemnification obligations and the obligation to pay amelioration charge. In this preliminary stage of enactment, we cannot estimate what are the chances of its enactment and what would be its effects, if so enacted, on our network and network build-out.

See note 29 to our consolidated financial report for 2012 included elsewhere in this annual report for details regarding a purported class actions filed against us in connection with cell sites construction and operation (a second purported class action was dismissed without prejudice).

National Zoning Plan 36

National Zoning Plan 36 includes guidelines for constructing cell sites in order to provide cellular broadcasting and reception communications coverage throughout Israel, while preventing radiation hazards and minimizing damage to the environment and landscape. The purpose of these guidelines is to simplify and streamline the process of cell site construction by creating a uniform framework for handling building permits.

National Zoning Plan 36 sets forth the considerations that the planning and building authorities should take into account when issuing building permits for cell sites. These considerations include the satisfaction of safety standards meant to protect the public's health from non-ionizing radiation emitting from cell sites, minimizing damage to the landscape and examining the effects of cell sites on their physical surroundings. National Zoning Plan 36 also determines instances in which building and planning committees are obligated to inform the public of requests for building permits prior to their issuance, so that they may submit objections to the construction of a site in accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Building Law. Many local authorities have argued that a building permit issued in reliance on the Plan requires the payment of amelioration charge. The matter was not yet decided by a court of law. Should the matter be decided against us, the costs of constructing a site will substantially increase.

See "Site licensing" below for arguments against the application of National Zoning Plan 36 to certain cell sites.

However, National Zoning Plan 36 is in the process of being revised. Current proposed changes will impose additional restrictions and requirements on the construction and operation of cell sites. In June 2010, the proposed changes were approved by the National Council for Planning and Building and submitted for the approval of the Government of Israel. If the proposed changes are approved by the Israeli Government they will harm our ability to construct new cell sites, make the process of obtaining building permits for the construction and operation of cell sites more cumbersome and costly, could adversely affect our existing network and may delay the future deployment of our network.

Table of Contents

Site licensing

We have experienced difficulties in obtaining some of the permits and consents required for the construction of cell sites, especially from local planning and building authorities. The construction of a cell site without a building permit (or applicable exemption) constitutes a violation of the Planning and Building Law. Violations of the Planning and Building Law are criminal in nature. The Planning and Building Law contains enforcement provisions to ensure the removal of unlawful sites. There have been instances in which we received demolition orders or in which we and certain of our directors, officers and employees faced criminal charges in connection with cell sites constructed and/or used without the relevant permits or not in accordance with the permits. In most of these cases, we were successful in preventing or delaying the demolition of these sites, through arrangements with the local municipalities or planning and building authorities for obtaining the permit, or in other cases, by relocating to alternate sites. As of December 31, 2012, we were subject to 10 criminal and administrative legal proceedings alleging that some of our cell sites were built and have been used without the relevant permits or not in accordance with the permits. As of the same date, a small portion of our cell sites operated without building permits or applicable exemptions. Although we are in the process of seeking to obtain building permits of these sites, we may not be able to obtain them and in several instances we may be required to relocate these sites to alternative locations or to demolish them without any suitable alternative. In addition, we may be operating a significant number of our cell sites, in a manner which is not fully compatible with the building permits issued for them, although they are covered by permits from the Ministry of Environmental Protection in respect of their radiation level. In some cases we will be required to relocate these cell sites to alternative locations, to reduce capacity coverage or to demolish them without any suitable alternative.

Based on advice received from our legal advisors and consistent with most Court rulings on the matter and the Israeli Attorney General opinion on the matter (given in May 2008) that the exemption from obtaining a building permit applies to cellular radio access devices, we have not requested building permits under the Planning and Building Law for rooftop radio access devices.

Notwithstanding the Attorney General's opinion, in May 2008 the District Court of Tel-Aviv-Jaffa, in its capacity as court of appeals, ruled that our and other cellular operators' devices do not meet the exemption's requirements and therefore the exemption may not be relied upon by us and other cellular operators. We and other cellular operators appealed against this ruling to the Supreme Court and the State notified the Supreme Court it concurs with our and another cellular operator's appeals against the District Court ruling. The State requested that a third operator's appeal be returned to the District Court for further deliberation on specific questions regarding the interpretation of "rooftop" and the requirement to obtain an extraordinary usage permit in the circumstances of that case in the context of the exemption. Furthermore, in July 2008, a petition seeking to annul the Attorney General's opinion and apply the District Court ruling was filed with the Supreme Court by the Union of Local Authorities in Israel and certain local planning and building authorities which also requested to join our appeal and argue against the position of the State. In June 2009, another petition seeking similar remedies, was also filed with the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court decided to hear both petitions and our appeal together.

In July 2009, the inter-ministry committee established to examine the appropriateness of future application of the exemption according to the Attorney General opinion, published its recommendations for future application of the exemption. While the Ministry of

Table of Contents

Communications recommended that, given the difficulties in obtaining permits for the construction of cell sites, the exemption should be reviewed after the lapse of one to two years from the approval of the new National Zoning Plan 36, to verify that it provides an adequate solution that allows the cellular operators to provide required communications services, the Ministries of Interior Affairs and Environmental Protection recommended that the exemption be annulled within 6 months from the date of the recommendations, based, among others, on the following arguments: (1) current cellular infrastructure is sufficient, given it is currently used to provide advanced services such as internet, radio and television broadcasting, while such services may be provided by a landline network; and (2) with respect to radiation safety, cell sites constructed pursuant to a building permit are preferable to radio access devices, and utilizing a cellular network to provide advanced services which can be provided through a landline network, is unjustified in light of the preventive care principle set in the Israeli Non-Ionizing Radiation Law.

In September 2009, following publication of such recommendations, the Attorney General concluded that the application of the exemption does not balance properly the different interests involved and therefore cannot continue. In March 2010 the Israeli Ministry of Interior Affairs submitted draft regulations setting conditions for the application of the exemption for the approval of the Economy Committee of the Israeli Parliament. The regulations draft includes significant limitations on the ability to construct radio access devices based on such exemption, including a limitation of the number of such radio access devices to 5% of the total number of cell sites constructed or to be constructed with a building permit in a certain area during a certain period (which will render the construction of radio access devices based on the exemption practically impossible), and circumstances in which a request for a building permit for the radio access device was filed and no resolution has been granted within the timeframe set in the regulations.

In September 2010, the Israeli Supreme Court issued an interim order prohibiting further construction of radio access devices in cellular networks in reliance on the exemption. The interim order, that was issued pursuant to the Israeli Attorney General's request, will be in effect until the enactment of the proposed regulations or other decision by the court. A further decision of the Supreme Court in February 2011, states that the order will not apply to the replacement of existing radio access devices under certain conditions. In September 2011, the Supreme Court allowed Hot Mobile and Golan to construct radio access devices in reliance on the exemption, under certain limitations, until July 31, 2012 which was thereafter extended several times until September 30, 2013. Our application to relax the interim order against us was denied.

Additionally, in November 2008, the District Court of Central Region, in its capacity as court of appeals, ruled that the exemption does not apply to radio access devices, if the rooftop on which those devices are located is at the same level as a place of residence or other building that is regularly frequented by people. Other appeals relating to the exemption, including as to the requirement to obtain an extraordinary usage permit, are still under consideration, as well as other claims asserting that those cell sites and other facilities do not meet other legal requirements continue.

An annulment of, or inability to rely on, or substantial limitation of, the exemption could adversely affect our existing network and network build-out, particularly given the objection of some local planning and building authorities to grant due permits where required, could have a negative impact on our ability to obtain environmental permits for these sites, could negatively affect the extent, quality, capacity and coverage of our network,

Table of Contents

and our ability to continue to market our products and services effectively. This may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Radio access devices do receive the required permits from the Ministry of Environmental Protection. Since October 2007, the Commissioner of Environmental Radiation at the Ministry of Environmental Protection took the position that he will not grant and/or renew operating permits to radio access devices, where the local planning and building committee's engineer objected to the Company's reliance upon this exemption for radio access devices. We believe that in taking this position, the Commissioner is acting beyond his powers.

For reasons not related to radiation hazards, due to building and planning issues we have received partial environmental permits for single cell sites.

Several local planning and building authorities argue that Israeli cellular operators may not receive building permits in reliance on the current National Zoning Plan 36, or the Plan, for cell sites operating in frequencies not specifically detailed in the frequencies charts attached to the Plan. In a number of cases, these authorities have refused to issue a building permit for such new cell sites, arguing that the Plan does not apply to such cell sites and that building permits for such cell sites should be sought through other processes (which are longer and cumbersome), such as an application for an extraordinary usage or under existing local specific zoning plans. Since June 2002, following the approval of the Plan, building permits for the Company's cell sites (where required) have been issued in reliance on the Plan. The current proposed draft amendment to the Plan covers all new cell sites requiring a building permit, independently of the frequencies in which they operate. Most of our cell sites and many cell sites operated by other operators, also operate in frequencies not specifically detailed in the Plan. The frequencies allocated in the 2011 UMTS tender are also not detailed in the Plan. We believe that the Plan applies to all cell sites, whether or not they operate in specific frequencies, consistent with the practice developed since 2002 and intend to defend our position vigorously. However, we are currently unable to assess the chances of success of the above argument.

If this approach continues, it would have a negative impact on our ability to deploy additional cell sites (until such time as the Plan is amended to include all cellular cell sites), which could negatively affect the extent, quality and capacity of our network coverage and our ability to continue to market our products and services effectively.

In addition to cell sites, we provide repeaters (also known as bi-directional amplifiers) to subscribers seeking a solution to weak signal reception within specific indoor locations. Based on advice received from our legal advisors, we have not requested building permits under the Planning and Building Law for outdoor rooftop repeaters, which are a small part of the repeaters that have been installed. It is unclear whether other types of repeaters require building permits. Some repeaters require specific permits and others require a general permit from the Ministry of Environmental Protection in respect of their radiation level, and we ensure that each repeater functions within the parameters of the applicable general permit. Should it be established that the installation of repeaters (including those already installed) requires a building permit, we will perform cost-benefit analyses to determine whether to apply for permits for existing repeaters or to remove them and whether to apply for permits for new repeaters.

Table of Contents

In addition, we construct and operate microwave sites as part of our transmission network. The various types of microwave sites receive permits from the Ministry of Environmental Protection in respect of their radiation level. Based on advice received from our legal advisors, we believe that building permits are not required for the installation of these microwave facilities on rooftops. If the courts determine that building permits are necessary for the installation of these sites, it could have a negative impact on our ability to obtain environmental permits for these sites and to deploy additional microwave sites and could hinder the extent, quality and capacity of our transmission network coverage and our ability to continue to market our landline services effectively.

Operating a cell site or a facility without the requisite permits or not in accordance with permits granted could subject us and our officers and directors to criminal, administrative and civil liability. Should any of our officers or directors be found guilty of an offence, although this has not occurred to date, they may face monetary penalties and a term of imprisonment. In addition, our sites or other facilities may be the subject of demolition orders and claims of breach of contract and we may be required to relocate cell sites to less favorable locations or stop operation of cell sites. This could negatively affect the extent, quality and capacity of our network coverage and adversely affect our results of operations.

In July 2011, an inter ministry team of the Ministries of Communications, Finance, Interior, Environmental Protection and the Anti-Trust Commissionaire, published its recommendations regarding cell site sharing. The recommendations include compulsory cell sites sharing in the construction of new cell sites or modification to existing cell sites which require a building permit (the Ministry of Communications may exempt from the obligation to share cell sites where such obligation poses technological and engineering difficulties), while providing preference and leniencies to the new UMTS operators, as well as the reduction of existing non shared cell sites quantity. These recommendations or similar recommendations, if enacted, would further burden the construction of new cell sites and modifications to existing cell sites, and may adversely effect our existing cellular network, the network build-out and our results of operations.

In May 2012, the positions of the Ministries of Communications, Health and Environmental Protection in relation to the various aspects of the provision of 4G services in Israel were published, in response to a petition to hold a public debate regarding 4G service in Israel and prevent 4G spectrum allocation until such debate is held. The Ministries held the position that 4G services would involve some increase in the level of non-ionizing radiation the public will be exposed to and that in order to minimize such increase 4G deployment should be based on current cell sites, additional outdoor and indoor small cell sites and, whenever possible, use wireline infrastructure so that data traffic shall be carried mostly through wirelines and not cellular infrastructure. The adoption of the inter-ministry team's recommendations regarding cell site sharing is a precondition for the deployment of 4G infrastructure. Under such guidelines, the public's exposure to non-ionizing radiation level should not increase substantially. The Ministry of Health further opined that in light of the preventive precaution principle and, in order to reduce as much as possible the alleged health risks, 4G fields of usage and specific usage should be predefined and additional usage, where a landline alternative is available, should be conditioned on further discussion. The Ministry of Environmental Protection stated that full deployment of 4G infrastructure, under the guidelines set by the ministries shall decrease the level of exposure from handsets and create a more balanced level of exposure from cell sites, lower than current level in some areas where cellular

Table of Contents

infrastructure is sufficient and somewhat higher in areas where cellular infrastructure is sufficient and in any case much lower than the maximum exposure levels recommended by the international health organization and required under the environmental permits for cell sites in Israel. See "Construction and operating permits from the commissioner of environmental radiation" below for additional details.

Indemnification obligations

In January 2006, the Planning and Building Law was amended to provide that as a condition for issuing a building permit for a cell site, local building and planning committees shall require letters of indemnification from cellular operators indemnifying the committees for possible depreciation claims under Section 197 of the Planning and Building Law, in accordance with the directives of the National Council for Planning and Building. Section 197 establishes that a property owner whose property value has been depreciated as a result of the approval of a building plan that applies to his property or neighboring properties may be entitled to compensation from the local building and planning committee. In February 2007, the Israeli Minister of Interior Affairs extended the limitation period within which depreciation claims may be brought under the Planning and Building Law from three years from approval of the building plan to the later of one year from receiving a building permit under National Zoning Plan 36 for a cell site and six months from the construction of a cell site. The Minister retains the general authority to extend such period further. This extension of the limitation period increases our potential exposure to depreciation claims.

The National Council's guidelines issued in January 2006 provide for an undertaking for full indemnification of the planning and building committees by the cellular companies, in the form published by the council. The form allows the indemnifying party to control the defense of the claim. These guidelines will remain in effect until replaced by an amendment to National Zoning Plan 36.

Since January 2006, we have provided approximately 349 indemnification letters in order to receive building permits. In addition, prior to January 2006, we provided three undertakings to provide an indemnification letter to local planning and building committees. Local planning and building committees have sought to join cellular operators, including us, as defendants in depreciation claims made against them even though indemnification letters were not provided. We were joined as defendants in a small number of cases, but are not, as of December 31, 2012, a party to any such depreciation claim. We expect that we will be required to continue to provide indemnification letters as the process of deploying our cell sites continues. As a result of the requirement to provide indemnification letters, we may decide to construct new cell sites in alternative, less suitable locations, to reduce capacity coverage or not to construct them at all, should we determine that the risks associated with providing such indemnification letters outweigh the benefits derived from constructing such cell sites, which could impair the quality of our service in the affected areas.

Construction and operating permits from the commissioner of environmental radiation

Under the Non-Ionizing Radiation Law (and previously under the Israeli Pharmacists Regulations (Radioactive Elements and their Products), 1980), it is prohibited to construct and operate cell sites without a permit from the Ministry of Environmental Protection. The Commissioner of Environmental Radiation is authorized to issue two types of permits: construction permits, for cell site construction; and operating permits, for cell site operation.

Table of Contents

These permits contain various conditions that regulate the construction and/or operating of cell sites, as the case may be. Our cell sites routinely receive both construction and operating permits from the Commissioner within the applicable time frames. Some repeaters require specific permits and others require general permits from the Commissioner in respect of their radiation level, and we ensure that each repeater functions within the parameters of its applicable general permit.

The Pharmacists Regulations provide that each of the two kinds of permits is valid for one year from the date of its issuance, or for a shorter period of time as determined by the Commissioner. We submitted annual reports regarding radiation surveys conducted on our cell sites, which, according to the Commissioner, automatically renews the permits for additional one-year terms. Under the Pharmacists Regulations, the Commissioner may issue orders to take appropriate action should he believe a cell site or other facility poses a threat to the health or welfare of individuals, the public or the environment. Failure to comply with the Pharmacists Regulations, the terms of a permit or the instructions of the Commissioner can lead to sanctions, including the revocation or suspension of the permit.

Pursuant to the Non-Ionizing Radiation Law, the construction and operation of cell sites and other facilities requires the prior approval of the Ministry of Environmental Protection. The validity of a construction permit will be for a period not exceeding three months, unless otherwise extended by the Commissioner, and the validity of an operating permit will be for a period of five years and we are required to submit to the Commissioner annual reports regarding radiation surveys conducted on our cell sites and other facilities by third parties that were authorized to conduct such surveys by the Commissioner. Permits that were issued under the Pharmacists Regulations were deemed, for the remainder of their term, as permits issued under the Non-Ionizing Radiation Law. An applicant must first receive a construction permit from the Commissioner and only then may the applicant receive a building permit from the planning and building committee. In order to receive an operating permit from the Commissioner, certain conditions must be met, such as presenting a building permit or an exemption and means taken (including technological means) to limit exposure levels from each cell site or facility (relevant also for the receipt of a construction permit). In April 2010, the Commissioner amended all existing operating permits to include an obligation to provide the Commissioner with online, ongoing data regarding the radiation level on each of the cell sites and other facilities operated by each cellular operator, satisfied by a monitoring system supplied by the Commissioner and installed at the operator's premises. We provide the Commissioner with the requested data. See "Site licensing" above for additional details in regards to obtaining a building permit or relying on an exemption.

The Non-Ionizing Radiation Law also regulates permitted exposure levels, documentation and reporting requirements, and provisions for supervision of cell site and other facility operation. The Non-Ionizing Radiation Law grants the Commissioner authority to issue eviction orders if a cell site or other facility operates in conflict with its permit, and it imposes criminal sanctions on a company and its directors and officers for violations of the law. Failure to comply with the Non-Ionizing Radiation Law or the terms of a permit can lead to revocation or suspension of the permit, as well as to withholding the grant of permits to additional cell sites of that operator.

In December 2008, the Minister of Environmental Protection signed the Non-Ionizing Radiation Regulations, which did not include a section setting additional restrictions in relation to the operation of cell sites and other facilities, which was included in a previous draft of the regulations. This section is pending approval by the Internal Affairs Committee of

Table of Contents

the Israeli Parliament. Further, in February 2010, the Minister of Environmental Protection published a proposed amendment to the Non-Ionizing Radiation Law, aiming to cancel the requirement to obtain the Minister of Communications' approval to the Non-Ionizing Radiation Regulations, where such regulations may have a substantial and direct effect on the monetary burden imposed on the communications market, as is required under the current law.

In October 2010, a bill amending the Non-Ionizing Radiation Law so as to prohibit the grant of permits under such law for the construction and operation of cell sites situated within 75 meters from certain institutions, passed a preliminary phase of enactment in the Israeli Parliament. According to the bill, such permits granted prior to the enactment of the bill shall expire within 6 months from its effective date. If restrictions similar to those included in the previous draft of the Non-Ionizing Radiation Regulations (which included additional restrictions on the operation of cell sites and other facilities) or the proposed change to the Non Ionizing Radiation Law are subsequently adopted, they will, among other things, limit our ability to construct new sites (and if applied to existing cell sites, they will also limit our ability to renew operating permits for many of our existing sites), will adversely affect our existing networks and networks build out, specifically in urban areas, and could adversely affect our results of operations.

See note 29 to our consolidated financial reports for 2012 included elsewhere in this annual report for details regarding purported class actions filed against us, in respect of non-ionizing radiation.

Handsets

The Israeli Consumer Protection Regulations (Information Regarding Non-Ionizing Radiation from Cellular Telephones), 2002, regulate the maximum permitted level of non-ionizing radiation from handset that emit non-ionizing radiation, according to the European standard, for testing GSM devices, and the American standard, for testing TDMA and CDMA devices. They also require cellular operators to attach an information leaflet to each handset package that includes explanations regarding non-ionizing radiation, the maximum permitted level of non-ionizing radiation and the level of radiation of that specific model of equipment. The Radiation Regulations further require that such information also be displayed at points-of-sale, service centers and on the Internet sites of cellular operators.

Pursuant to procedures published by the Ministry of Communications at the end of 2005, handsets must comply with all relevant standards, including specific absorption rate, or SAR, level standards. We obtained type-approval from the Ministry of Communications for each handset model we started to import prior to November 2012. As of November 2012, we inform the MOC of new models that we start to import and receive the MOC's approval. SAR levels are a measurement of non-ionizing radiation that is emitted by a hand-held cellular handset at its specific rate of absorption by living tissue. SAR tests are performed by the manufacturers on prototypes of each model of handset, not for each and every item. We include the information published by the manufacturer regarding SAR levels as we do not perform independent SAR tests for equipment and rely for this purpose on information provided by the manufacturers. As the manufacturers' approvals refer to a prototype handset, we have no information as to the actual SAR level of each specific item and throughout its lifecycle, including in the case of equipment repair. We inform our customers that there may be changes in the SAR levels in the event of equipment repair.

Table of Contents

We are required to provide a warranty for certain end user equipment purchased from us, for certain malfunctions during the first year, and are required to provide repair services for two years and in certain cases, for three years. We are also required to annul equipment sale in certain circumstances, at the request of the customer. See note 29 to our consolidated financial reports for 2012 included elsewhere in this annual report for details regarding purported class actions filed against us, in respect of handsets.

Royalties

Under the Communications Law, the Israeli Communications Regulations (Royalties), 2001, and the terms of our general license from the Ministry of Communications, in 2012 we were required to pay the State of Israel royalties equal to 1.3% of our revenues generated from telecommunications services, less payments transferred to other license holders for interconnect fees or roaming services and losses from bad debt. No royalties are due for sale of handsets. The rate of these royalties has decreased in recent years, from 4.5% in 2002, to 1% in 2010. However, in January 2011, these regulations were amended to increase the royalties payable regarding cellular operations only, for the year 2011 and 2012, commencing January 19, 2011, from 1% in 2010, to 1.75% in 2011 and 2.5% in 2012, unless the Ministry of Communications has notified that an additional UMTS operator has commenced providing service through national roaming services or that MVNOs have gained 5% market share. This change was not applied to MVNOs and holders of a special general license for the provision of landline services. In March 2011, we, Pelephone and Partner have filed a petition with the Israeli Supreme Court against the Ministries of Finance and Communications in that regard. Following the petition and the launch of UMTS services, using national roaming, by Golan and Hot Mobile in May 2012, the Communications Regulations were amended on August 12, 2012 so that for cellular operators, the 2012 average annual rate would be 1.3% and as of January 1, 2013, would be 0%; and for landline and long distance services (for which the Company paid 1% for 2012), as of January 1, 2013, would be 0%.

Frequency Fees

Frequency allocations for our cellular services are governed by the Wireless Telegraph Ordinance. We pay frequency fees to the State of Israel in accordance with the Israeli Wireless Telegraph Regulations (Licenses, Certificates and Fees), 1987. In December 2008, we returned the TDD spectrum allocated to us in 2004, to the Ministry of Communications, after not being able to use that spectrum since it was awarded to us, due to unavailability of supporting equipment, and in May 2012, we were rewarded the sum of NIS 5.3 million following a mediation agreement approved by the court in a lawsuit we filed against the Ministry of Communications for the return of the frequencies fees we paid for the TDD spectrum.

Mobile Virtual Network Operator

A mobile virtual network operator, or MVNO, is a cellular operator that does not own its own spectrum and usually does not have its own radio network infrastructure. Instead, MVNOs have business arrangements with existing cellular operators to use their infrastructure and network for the MVNO's own customers. The operation of MVNOs in the Israeli cellular market has contributed to the increased competition. If our service to a MVNO is to be provided under unfavorable terms and consideration for us, it may adversely affect our revenues.

Table of Contents

The Communications Law was amended in July 2009 to include an MVNO license. In January 2010, the regulations necessary for the granting of an MVNO license were promulgated. The regulations regulate the operation of an MVNO pursuant to an agreement to be reached and entered between a cellular operator and an MVNO and sets, among others, the conditions for receiving an MVNO license, including a requirement to operate a mobile phone switch, a restriction on a cellular operator and landline operator to receive an MVNO license and limitations on parties related to an existing cellular operator and on other communications licensees, to receive an MVNO license. Although the regulations deal with an agreement based MVNO, the Communications Law, as amended, instructs further that in the event that a MVNO and the cellular operator will not have reached an agreement as to the provision of service by way of MVNO within six months from the date the MVNO has approached the cellular operator, and if the Ministry of Communications together with the Ministry of Commerce determine that the failure to reach an agreement is due to unreasonable conditions imposed by the cellular operator, the Ministry of Communications will use its authority to provide instructions. Such instructions may include intervening in the terms of the agreement, including by setting the price of the service.

To date the Ministry of Communications granted twelve MVNO licenses (of which one was returned to the Ministry of Communications) and five MVNOs entered hosting agreements with cellular operators, without the Ministry of Communications' intervention: Free Telecom with Pelephone, Rami Levy with Pelephone, Ituran with Pelephone and Partner, Home Cellular with us and Alon Cellular with Partner. Rami Levy, Home Cellular and Alon Cellular Ltd. commenced operations during December 2011, April and May 2012, respectively, and it is unknown if and when the others will commence operations. For additional details see "Item 4. B. – Business Overview – The Telecommunications Industry in Israel – Cellular services".

Additional UMTS Operators

In September 2010, the Ministry of Communications published a UMTS spectrum tender for two additional UMTS operators (the general principles of which were published in October 2009). Participation in this tender was allowed only to new operators and Hot Mobile. Hot Mobile (in September 2011) and Golan (In January 2012) were awarded the new UMTS frequencies. Golan was awarded a general license for the provision of cellular services and Hot Mobile's existing license was amended. Hot Mobile and Golan committed to pay license fees in the amount of approximately NIS 705 million and NIS 360 million, respectively, after the lapse of five years from the grant date of the UMTS license which may be reduced by one seventh of the sum, down to a minimal license fee of NIS 10 million, for each one percent of market share gained by each in the private sector (taking into consideration subscribers, revenues and minutes of use market shares) during such 5 year period, with market share to be assessed after the lapse of two and five years, from the date in which each received its UMTS license. In February 2013, the Ministry of Communications announced that market shares will be calculated using these operators' figures, when applicable, out of the cellular market figures as of September 2011, before they began their UMTS operation. Hot Mobile and Golan were awarded certain additional benefits and leniencies, such as a prolonged timetable for network coverage completion and the right to use national roaming through cellular operators' networks.

In December 2010, the Communications Law was amended to require existing operators (other than Hot Mobile) to provide new UMTS operators and Hot Mobile national roaming services, for a period of 7 - 10 years (subject to certain conditions). If the new operator or Hot Mobile and the hosting operator have not reached an agreement, as to the terms of this service (including the consideration), for any reason, by the time that the service is to commence (after certain criteria are met) the service will be provided for the then prevailing interconnect tariff and subsequently (but no later than February 1, 2012) shall be determined by the Ministry of Communications with the consent of the Minister of Finance

Table of Contents

and applied retroactively. In October 2011, we entered a national roaming agreement with Golan, under which we will provide Golan national roaming services and cell site sharing privileges and Hot Mobile entered an agreement with Pelephone. As a result, the Ministry of Communications did not determine the terms for the service. Unfavorable terms and consideration for the service may result in material adverse effect on our results of operations.

In May 2012, Golan and Hot Mobile launched their UMTS services, which significantly increased competition in the market, increased churn and accelerated price erosion, and has materially adversely affected our results of operations.

See "Site Licensing" above for the recommendations of an inter-ministry team regarding compulsory cell site sharing, including providing preference and leniencies to the new UMTS operators, as well as in relation to their exclusive ability to build new radio access devices.

Long Distance Services

In February 2011, the regulations preventing a cellular and landline operator from providing international services and preventing a cellular operator from having a significant influence over an international landline, or ILD, operator were amended to allow cellular operators to provide long distance services or have significant influence over an ILD operator upon the earlier of the date in which an MVNO operator begins providing services (and with regards to an ILD which requested an MVNO license before September 1, 2010 and was granted a license – when the Ministry of Communications intervened or decided not to intervene in the terms of its hosting agreement with the cellular operator) or after December 31, 2012. In addition, the Ministry of Communications allowed cellular operators to have significant influence over an ILD before those conditions are met, under structural separation of the long distance operation from the cellular operator's operation.

As a result of this change, in February 2011, the Ministry of Communications approved the acquisition of Smile Telecom by Partner, subject to the structural separation of the long distance operation until the aforementioned conditions are met, and the acquisition was completed in March 2011. Similarly, in July 2011, the Ministry of Communications approved our acquisition of Netvision subject to the same conditions, and the acquisition was completed in August 2011.

In December 2011, a formal notification was published in the Israeli Official Gazette announcing that Rami Levy, an MVNO operator, commenced its operations in December 2011. Following such announcement, the structural separation required by the Ministry of Communications was lifted.

In August 2012, the Ministry of Communications imposed restrictions on the cooperation between cellular and ILD operators in relation to prepaid calling cards.

The Ministry of Communications also noted that a revised examination of the ILD market structure and its independence is required.

Emergency Situations

We may be subject to certain restrictions and instructions regarding our activities or provision of services during national emergencies or for reasons of national security or public

Table of Contents

welfare, including taking control of our cellular or land line networks. Further, the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Communications may determine that our services are deemed essential services, in which case we may be subject to further additional limitations on our business operations.

Reporting Requirements

We are subject to extensive reporting requirements. We are required to report to the Ministry of Communications the transfer of means of control from certain thresholds. We are required to submit to the Ministry of Communications detailed annual reports with information concerning subscribers, revenues by service, the number of new subscribers and churn, annual financial statements and prior notice of tariff increases. In addition, under our license we may be required by the Ministry of Communications to file additional reports, such as reports on complaints, pricing, specific costs and revenues, network problems and the development of the network. We are required to provide the Commissioner of Environmental Radiation under the Non-Ionizing Radiation Law and regulations with periodic and online, ongoing data of all cell sites operated by us.

Securities Administrative Enforcement

An amendment to the Israeli Securities laws, which came into force in January 2011, established administrative enforcement measures for the handling of certain violations of certain securities and securities-related laws supervised by the Israeli Securities Authority, or ISA. This amendment allows the ISA to impose various civil enforcement measures, including financial sanctions, payment to the injured party, prohibition of the violator from serving as an executive officer for a certain period of time, annulment or suspension of licenses, approvals and permits granted under such laws and agreed settlement mechanism as alternative for a criminal or administrative proceeding. In case of a violation by a corporation, the amendment provides for additional responsibility of the chief executive officer in some cases, unless certain conditions have been met, including the existence and implementation of procedures for the prevention of the violation. We adopted such procedures for the prevention of violations.

Contributing to the Community and Protecting the Environment

We and our employees have been contributing to the community since our inception and are proud to be among the leaders of community responsibility. We consider contribution to the community in Israel, and specifically to the communities residing next to the Israeli northern and southern borders, an important component of our business vision and believe we have a responsibility towards the Israeli community, as we acknowledge that business leadership goes hand in hand with social leadership.

In 2011 we continued to contribute to the community with a specific focus on our "Cellcom Volume" youth centers initiative. In addition to promoting Israeli music and artists and providing our customers with Israeli music through a variety of musical content, we have contributed to the creation of "Cellcom Volume" youth centers in various locations throughout Israel, in which we provide young people resources related to music, including music classes, facilities to bands and choirs for rehearsals and recording studios. We believe music is a language which connects and bonds different people together. As of December 31, 2012, we had eleven "Volume Centers" and five "mini Volume Centers" active throughout

Table of Contents

the country. Our employees volunteer regularly in these centers as well as with other community projects.

In addition to our contribution to the build-up and strengthening of the community, through activities such as our "Cellcom Volume" youth centers, we make financial donations to other worthy causes and entities. In August 2006, our Board of Directors determined our donation policy to be at an amount equal to up to one percent of our annual net income. In 2012 we donated a total sum of approximately NIS 4.2 million, including our contribution to the community.

We are aware of the importance of environmental protection. Accordingly, while providing quality products and services to our subscribers, we seek to operate responsibly to continuously reduce negative impacts on the environment and the landscape, aiming at a better environmental performance than required by local law. We dedicate personnel, funds and technologies to improve our performance, strive to achieve an efficient deployment of infrastructure subject to the applicable standards, and cooperate with the local authorities. We constantly monitor our environmental performance and aim to reduce our ecological footprint, through activities such as recycling, reduction of paper usage by managed printing, reduction of pollutants' emissions and energy usage as well as activities aimed at allowing our subscribers to better protect the environment, such as collecting used batteries, sending subscribers their monthly bill for our services and other correspondence from us via e-mail in lieu of regular mail, transfer to usage of environment friendly raw materials and separation between different types of waste in our repair services. In 2010, we entered into an agreement for the future purchase of electricity to be produced by a private natural gas based power station.

NETVISION

General

On August 31, 2011, we completed the acquisition of 100% of the share capital of Netvision through a merger transaction. Netvision was founded as an Israeli company in 1994 and became a public company following its initial public offering on the TASE in 2005. In our description of Netvision's business, the term "Netvision" refers to Netvision and its subsidiaries.

Netvision is a leading company in the Israeli communications market and is engaged in two primary businesses through its wholly owned subsidiary 013 Netvision Ltd., or 013 Netvision: provision of internet connectivity and related services (ISP); and provision of telephony services consisting mainly of international calling services, operator services, teleconferencing services and landline telephony services. In addition, Netvision is engaged in additional activities such as internet applications, cloud services and data security products.

ISP Business

General - The provision of internet connectivity services is one of Netvision's primary businesses. Netvision is a leading provider of internet connectivity services. The Israeli internet market is characterized by a separation between the internet infrastructure providers and the internet connectivity service providers. Consequently, the internet customer is required to enter into a contractual arrangement with both of these providers. The infrastructure provider is responsible for the connection of the customer from his computer or other device to the infrastructure provider's operator. The internet service provider (such as

Table of Contents

Netvision) is responsible for providing access to the customer from the infrastructure provider's operator, through its own operator, to the local and global internet network. Currently, there are two main internet infrastructure providers having landline infrastructure for the private sector in Israel: Bezeq and Hot. Netvision's internet infrastructure is currently comprised of connectivity sites in two locations in Israel (Haifa and Petah-Tikvah), which provide Netvision's customers, through overseas connectivity points in New York City, London and Frankfurt, with connectivity to the global internet network. This internet infrastructure contains backup capability in order to ensure continuity of service.

Services and Products – Netvision's main service provided to its internet subscribers is internet connectivity service and related services and products, as well as bundles of its services, including bundling with other companies' products or services. In 2012, Netvision offered ISP services bundled with cellular services offered by Cellcom. For additional details see “Item 4. Information on the Company - B. Business Overview” under “The Telecommunications Industry in Israel” and “Competition”.

In addition, Netvision offers its internet subscribers value added services, such as data protection services to its private subscribers and connectivity integration solutions and global communications solutions to its business customers, including firewalls, anti-virus and anti-spam software, overseas internet connectivity services and server hosting services. In addition, Netvision provides through one of its controlled subsidiaries, ISP services which also offers the ability to filter the content viewed by the internet user; this service is targeted mainly to the orthodox religious sectors in Israel.

Netvision is constantly considering and evaluating the possibility of introducing additional products and services to its customers.

The Israeli ISP market is characterized by rapid technological changes, both in terms of the bandwidth offered to customers, as well as terms of expansion of the list of products and services offered. For developments in the Israeli internet infrastructure sector such as the entrance of new players into this sector, see this Item 4.B above under "The Telecommunications Industry in Israel – Wireline Services - Broadband and Internet Services" and under "Competition" below.

Suppliers – In the course of engaging in its ISP business, Netvision has entered into agreements with various suppliers, the principals of which are the following:

Netvision entered into a number of agreements with Mediterranean Nautilus Ltd. and Mediterranean Nautilus (Israel) Ltd., or collectively Med Nautilus, during the years 2003 through 2011. Med Nautilus is the owner of the principal communications infrastructure which connects the Israeli internet network to the "entry points" of the global internet network via an underwater communications cable (two additional cables were laid in 2011, one of them by one of Netvision's competitors – Bezeq International). Pursuant to its agreements with Med Nautilus, Netvision purchased rights of use, of certain telecommunications capacities on Med Nautilus' communications cables, as well as maintenance and operation services relating to these cables. The agreements include options pursuant to which Netvision may expand the purchased capacity. The terms of these agreements may be subject to regulatory intervention. See additional details under "Item 3. Key Information - Risk Factors – Risk Factors Related to our wholly owned subsidiary Netvision - Netvision is exposed to risks relating to network infrastructure and is dependent on services it receives from its external suppliers" and under "Competition" below. The term of the agreement with respect to part of the capacity purchased from Med Nautilus is until

Table of Contents

May 2027. Netvision has the option to terminate agreements with respect to parts of the capacity in 2017, 2022 and 2024.

Netvision entered into agreements with Bezeq and Hot, the primary internet infrastructure providers in the Israeli market. Netvision is dependent upon these suppliers since without their infrastructure Netvision would be unable to provide its ISP services to its customers. Due to the increase in customer demand for broadband width in recent years, Netvision is required from time to time to increase the capacity it purchases from Bezeq and Hot. Under its agreement with Bezeq (valid until 2014), Netvision is required to purchase minimum bandwidth capacities from Bezeq. In June 2012, following our application to the Ministry of Communications to intervene with these prices the Ministry has published a hearing in relation to these connectivity services and in 2013, both Bezeq and Hot reduced the price they demand for connectivity services to their infrastructure.

In 2011 Netvision entered into an agreement with Cisco Systems, Inc., or Cisco, effective until 2014. Cisco provides Netvision maintenance and advanced services for its IP network equipment; in addition, Netvision sells various Cisco products to its customers.

Netvision uses several supporting systems for the provision of service to its customers, including communications infrastructure by Nortel (see additional details under "Telephony Business – Suppliers" below), customer relations management system by PeopleSoft supported by Matrix for Oracle, inventory and suppliers management system by Priority/Eshbel, billing system by CBP supported internally and by Intec, financial system by Coda and infrastructure integrations system by Microsoft BizTalk.

Sales and Marketing and Customer Care – Netvision conducts its sales and marketing activities in the ISP business through various channels, including media advertising in newspapers, internet and television, concentrated sales campaigns, telemarketing to potential customers, as well as targeting existing customers by offering them upgrades to existing subscription programs and value added products and services. In addition, Netvision regularly collaborates with other telecommunications providers (including Bezeq and Hot) in order to offer service packages to existing and potential customers and its services are also marketed by Cellcom, including in bundles of services.

Netvision's sales and customer care center is located in Haifa, providing sales services, technical and support services, billing and general information, by specializing representatives as well as installation services provided by technicians teams at the landline customers' premises.

Competition - The Israeli ISP market is highly competitive and saturated and is characterized by relatively low entry barriers. Competition among the various players concentrates mainly on the ability to offer high-speeds of internet connection and on pricing. Although the provision of ISP services requires obtaining a license from the Ministry of Communications, the Ministry's policy is liberal in granting ISP licenses. As a result, as of the date of this report, there are a few dozen holders of ISP licenses in Israel, though most of them do not hold significant market shares. Entry into the ISP market requires, however, incurring substantial penetration costs associated with the formation of ISP infrastructure, support systems, customer care systems and marketing channels. Due to such penetration and the other ongoing costs of operating ISP service, profitability in the ISP market usually requires creation of a broad customer base.

Table of Contents

The key success factors in the ISP market are brand recognition and reputation, advanced and updated technological capabilities, available bandwidth, high levels of customer care service, the ability to constantly develop innovative products and services and complementary products and services, competitive pricing, achieving and maintaining customer loyalty, and strategic cooperation with strong local and international corporations.

Netvision's main competitors in the ISP market are Partner (through its wholly-owned subsidiary Smile Telecom), Bezeq (through its wholly owned-subsiary Bezeq International) and Hot (through its wholly owned subsidiary Hotnet).

In 2010, the Ministry of Communications amended Bezeq's and its subsidiaries licenses to allow them to offer bundles of services to private customers, under certain limitations, including that each of the services in the Bezeq bundle would be available for sale separately under the same terms as in the bundle, and the requirement that Bezeq allows its competitors to participate in a similar bundle - if includes ISP, VOB or ILD services - under the same terms and equally markets such bundles as its own bundle (the second requirement does not apply to the sale of the bundle by a subsidiary of Bezeq). In 2010 Bezeq began offering bundles of ISP services, internet infrastructure services and landline telephony services. This led to a decrease in the prices of the ISP services sold in the bundle. In July 2012, the Ministry of Communications amended Bezeq's and its subsidiaries licenses to allow the offering of such bundles to business customers as well. At the end of 2010, Hotnet, a subsidiary of Hot, received an ISP license under structural limitation from the other Hot group entities (similar to the structural limitation in the Bezeq group) and Hot was also allowed to offer bundles of services including ISP services, under similar limitations as Bezeq, with respect to the ISP service component of the bundle. In February 2012 Hot began offering ISP services and has done so at tariffs significantly lower than market prices and Bezeq also significantly lowered its internet infrastructure services tariffs to end-users. Netvision believes there is cause for regulatory intervention and has appealed to the regulators to intervene, but cannot predict the outcome of such appeals. This resulted in a further decrease in ISP service prices and led to increased demand for greater bandwidth and required Netvision to significantly increase the capacity it purchases, increasing its expenses in purchasing capacity from Bezeq and Hot and decreasing its profitability. Should internet connectivity service prices remain as high as they currently are and the regulatory environment remains unchanged, this trend is expected to continue to have a material adverse effect on Netvision's results of operations. Also, the offering of bundles of services and entry into the ISP market of cellular operators, could further intensify the competition in this market and adversely affect Netvision's results of operations. In addition, the annulment of the early termination fees by the Ministry of Communications that was implemented in the ISP market during 2011 has increased the competition in the market. See also "Item 3. Key Information – D. Risk Factors - Risks Related to our wholly owned subsidiary Netvision - Changes in the regulatory environment could adversely affect Netvision's business".

In late 2011 and early 2012, two additional underwater cables that could serve as an alternative to Med Nautilus were deployed. In addition, proposed regulation published for public comments by the Ministry of Communications on November 2011, proposes certain limitations on the terms of agreements with Med Nautilus, which will, among others, limit the discounts and capacity Med Nautilus may provide. While the deployment of additional underwater cables improved the competition in the ISP market, as ISP providers were able to find alternatives to Med Nautilus, which led to a decrease in the pricing of the global internet connectivity services provided to Israeli ISP providers. Bezeq International's deployment of another underwater cable and adoption of the proposed regulatory changes might harm

Table of Contents

Netvision's results of operations and competitive position as it could force ISP providers other than Bezeq International to purchase capacity on less favorable terms and prices, and more so in comparison to Bezeq International. In addition, the Electric Company's initiative, intended to enable use its optic fiber infrastructure for the provision of broadband transmission services, would improve Netvision's competitiveness in the ISP market as this is likely to reduce its dependency on Bezeq and Hot as internet infrastructure providers. For additional details see this Item 4.B above under "- The Telecommunications Industry in Israel – Wireline Services - Broadband and Internet Services" and "- Government Regulations – Competition".

Regulation and Licenses – A major part of Netvision's ISP operations is subject to regulation by the Israeli Ministry of Communications pursuant to the Communications Law, including through its ISP license.

The provision of ISP and related services requires a license. Netvision was granted three ISP licenses, one to its wholly owned subsidiary 013 Netvision, one to its controlled subsidiary Internet Rimon, and third was granted to 013 Netvision by the Israeli Civil Administration in Judea and Samaria in respect of this territory. The licenses are valid through April 2017, November 2017 and July 2016, respectively.

Under its ISP licenses, Netvision is required to maintain a minimum standard of customer service, is prohibited to condition the use of its services by the customer on the customer's having to be connected to a portal designated by it, and is generally prohibited from discriminating among subscribers in terms of service packages offered and pricing. Netvision is also required to inform its customers regarding the main features of the service provided, including commencement date of service, the consideration paid by the customer, quality standards, and maintenance details, and details about the possibility of email address portability. In 2012 the ISP licenses were updated to include a specific format for Netvision's agreement with its customers; obtaining an explicit request from its subscribers to purchase services as a precondition to providing and charging for such services; maintaining a specific form of evidence of customers' request to purchase its services as a precondition to charging its customers for those services, notifications it must provide them regarding the services ordered and the procedures for handling subscribers' objections as to billing and repayment of overcharged sums.

Under its ISP licenses, Netvision may not transfer any means of control or any of its licenses' related assets, without the prior written approval of the Ministry of Communications. The license may be terminated in case that Netvision fails to provide information or provides false information or in case it is engaged in anticompetitive practices in the communications market, subject to certain terms. The licensee is required to provide the Ministry of Communications with certain reports and is required to cooperate with the supervisory bodies of the Ministry of Communications.

For a possible change to the license formation see "-Government Regulations - Possible unified license" above.

In August 2011, the Communications Law was amended pursuant to which the Early Termination Fees in the ISP market were annulled, which led to an increase in competition, churn rates and rate of gross recruitment of subscribers and price erosion. Further intervention by the Ministry of Communications in the ISP market, including by means of granting additional ISP licenses and setting their terms and conditions, change or annulment of the structural separation currently in place for the Bezeq and Hot groups, permitting the bundling of certain services without restrictions and intervening in the purchasing of global internet connectivity, could have a material adverse effect on Netvision's ISP business.

Table of Contents

Telephony Business

General - The provision of telephony services is one of Netvision's primary businesses. Netvision's services in its telephony business consist mainly of the following:

- Provision of international calling services, or ILD services;
- Provision of landline telephony services, including teleconferencing services; and
- Sales of IP switchboard services and operation and management of business telecommunications systems.

ILD services enable an end user (whether in Israel or overseas) to conduct a telephone conversation with an end user located elsewhere in the world. These include calls (including cellular calls) from Israel to various destinations abroad as well as call (including cellular call) completion services to overseas operators transferring a call to Israel; transferring international calls between operators and signaling services to local and foreign cellular operators to allow roaming.

Netvision is a leading player in the Israeli ILD market. As a result of a regulatory change that was adopted by the Israeli Ministry of Communications in February 2011, pursuant to which cellular operators were permitted, under certain conditions, to have significant influence over an ILD operator, we were permitted to acquire Netvision in 2011. This regulatory change also enabled the acquisition of Smile by Partner. For further details, see this Item 4.B above under "- Government Regulation – Long Distance Services". In recent years, the ILD market has witnessed a development of and an increase in the use of technologies that can serve as substitute to the traditional ILD services, including voice over IP technologies offered by companies such as Skype. This trend has resulted in a continual decline in the overall use of traditional ILD services. Further developments and penetration of such technologies into the Israeli ILD market could have a material adverse effect on the financial results of Netvision's ILD business.

The entry of Hot Mobile and Golan into the ILD market in the second half of 2012 and beginning of 2013, respectively could also have an adverse effect on Netvision's results of operations, as customers (specifically their cellular customers) may choose their ILD services over Netvision's.

Landline telephony service enables an end user to conduct a telephone conversation with another end user who uses either another landline or a cellular telephone or computer, either in Israel or overseas.

Services and Products – Netvision's principal service in the ILD market is the provision of outgoing and incoming telephone calls to and from substantially worldwide coverage. Netvision provides these services mostly to post-paid customers, but also to pre-paid customers mainly through the sale of calling cards. Most of the customers of the pre-paid services are foreign workers who work in Israel. In addition, Netvision provides "hubbing" services to non-Israeli international operators. Hubbing services are bridging services between two non-Israeli international operators. Such services are provided by Netvision where there is no direct connection between two non-Israeli international operators or where pricing differences in different locations make such bridging service desirable. The hubbing service market has been growing in the past few years because of the development of the

Table of Contents

international dialing market and because of the development of the corresponding arbitrage market on which various international operators trade international dialing capacities. In addition, Netvision provides "signaling" services to cellular operators who use roaming services. A cellular handset located out of its home network needs to "signal" its location to the hosting network in order to enable the cellular subscriber to get roaming services. Netvision provides these services to certain cellular operators in Israel (including us), as well as to foreign cellular operators with respect to their customers when they visit Israel.

Netvision's principal service in the wireline market is the provision of basic landline telephony services (usually by VOB technology). Netvision offers these services to both business and private customers. In addition, Netvision offers IP switchboard services and operation and management of business telecommunications systems. In 2012, Netvision has offered ILD and landline services, also bundled with cellular services offered by Cellcom. For additional details see "Item 4. Information on the Company - B. Business Overview" under "The Telecommunications Industry in Israel" and "Competition".

Suppliers – Netvision's principal suppliers in the telephony market are the following:

Bezeq, Hot and cellular operators: Under the Communications Law and licenses, all operators are required to interconnect their network to other public communications networks in Israel, on equal terms and without discrimination in respect of other operators. Netvision has entered into interconnect agreements with Bezeq, Hot and the cellular operators, for facilitating international traffic between Netvision's network and the other networks, as well as for billing and collection services for Netvision services, for certain customers. Substantially all of Netvision's traffic requires interconnections with these operators, as substantially all such traffic requires interconnection with them and is dependant on its availability and quality.

Most of the international dialing traffic between Israel and the rest of the world is conducted through the underwater communications cable of Med Nautilus. For further details on the agreements between Netvision and Med Nautilus, see above in the description of Netvision's ISP business under "Netvision - ISP Business - Suppliers".

Netvision has also entered into agreements with more than 100 foreign carriers. These agreements regulate and facilitate the ILD services of Netvision, as well as its international voice hubbing services.

Netvision entered into an agreement with Nortel Networks Israel (Sales and Marketing) Ltd., or Nortel in this section, in June 2004, for the provision of Netvision's international communications switch, on which Netvision bases its ability to provide international calling service, as well as related equipment and services. From 2010, Geneband Inc. (which acquired Nortel's relevant business) provides Netvision with support and maintenance services for the equipment provided under this agreement.

Netvision has entered into an agreement with ECI Telecom Ltd. for the provision of transmission switches by ECI Telecom among the various location sites of Netvision in Israel and overseas, used for its ISP operations. Under the maintenance agreement, ECI's liability is generally limited to direct damages and the lesser of the total consideration paid or \$200,000.

Sales and Marketing and Customer Care – The sale and marketing of Netvision's telephony products and services is conducted mainly through media advertising, primarily

Table of Contents

radio and television, but also through direct means such as telemarketing, mail and email campaigns. In addition, Netvision offers its telephony products and services on a non-exclusive basis through our "Cellocm Total" pricing plan, various retailers, through outsourced telemarketing centers and through distributors. Marketing to business customers is conducted also by approaching potential customers (including developers of large commercial real estate projects), participation in tenders (especially for maintenance and support services), through labor unions and targeted marketing campaigns and sponsorships.

Netvision's customer care centers provide its telephony services customers the same range of services provided to its ISP customers.

Competition –The Israeli ILD market is highly competitive, and the competition in the market is based mainly on the operator's ability to offer attractive pricing. The price of the international call is influenced also from the call completion tariff paid to the operator in the call's destination country, increased competition in the destination country leads to a decrease in tariffs for calls to those destinations and influence an increase of the quantity of minutes made to those destinations.

The Israeli landline market has been dominated for many years by Bezeq, a monopoly which held as of March 31, 2012 (according to the Ministry of Communications report) a market share of 68.7% in the private landline sector and a market share of 76.3% in the business landline sector. In recent years, Hot, entered this market and was allowed to bundle its landline service together with its internet infrastructure service and its multi-television service. See Netvision – ISP business – Competition" above for details regarding service bundles. Bezeq and Hot are currently the only landline carriers having full scale landline infrastructure. Recent technological and regulatory developments have enabled landline carriers which do not have a landline infrastructure, including Netvision, to enter the landline market. Netvision commenced its landline telephony services in 2008 using Voice Over Broadband, or VOB, technology, and expanded this business during 2009 through 2011. Netvision is investing substantial efforts and resources in increasing its reach into the Israeli landline market, and believes that in the long-run its landline business will contribute to our results of operations, to our brand recognition and to enhancing customers' loyalty. Netvision's penetration into the landline business is an important element in our ability to offer comprehensive service packages to its and our subscribers.

Regulatory changes in the telephony market such as the annulment of Early Termination Fees, which applies to existing as well as new pricing plans in November 2011, as well as the regulatory change that enabled cellular operators to have a significant influence over ILD operators, have increased competition even further as transfer barriers between service providers have been significantly eased and the various communications groups in the market are competing for the opportunity to offer potential and existing customers a one stop shop of communications services.

The key success factors in the telephony market are competitive pricing, which are updated constantly, brand recognition and reputation, advanced and updated technological capabilities, reliable network and high levels of maintenance, high quality of human resources including customer care services, and the ability to develop comprehensive products and services packages, to build a substantial customer base, to enhance customers' loyalty and the ability to face competition. In addition, the ability to develop strong strategic relations with foreign international dialing carriers and continuous agreements with them are also key elements in the ILD market.

Table of Contents

In recent years, the use of alternative telecommunications technologies such as voice-over-IP has resulted in downsizing of the telephony market, especially the ILD market. This trend is expected to continue in the future.

Netvision is a leading service provider in the Israeli ILD market. As of the date of this report, there are several ILD operators in the Israeli market. Netvision's main competitors in this market are Bezeq (through its wholly owned subsidiary Bezeq International) and Partner (through its wholly owned subsidiary Smile Telecom) and additional competitors include Xfone, Telzar, and more recently also Rami Levy, Golan and Hot, through wholly owned subsidiaries or affiliates.

Netvision estimates that its current market share in the Israeli landline market is not material with approximately 112,000 subscribers. Netvision's main competitors in the landline market are Bezeq and Hot, as well as Partner (through Smile Telecom) and Bezeq International. To our knowledge, Bezeq remains a monopoly in the landline market. The cancellation of the 'ADSL only' service in April 2012, which required Bezeq to set a unified tariff for ADSL services, whether the customer purchases another service from Bezeq or not, such tariff to include the relative cost of the access service, facilitated Netvision's competitive standing in the landline market as it reduced access service costs.

The development of a wholesale wireline services as decided by the Ministry of Communications in May 2012, when made available, will enhance Netvision's ability to compete and allow us and Netvision (as well as our competitors) to provide a wider selection of services at competitive prices, specifically in relation to residential landline services which is currently non-material. Any changes to the structural separation limitations in the Bezeq group and the supervision on Bezeq tariffs, or anti-competitive behavior if not prevented by the regulators, however, could adversely affect Netvision's ability to compete with Bezeq and Hot in general, and in the landline market in particular and may have a material adverse effect on Netvision's results of operation. For details see also "Item 3. Key Information – D. Risk Factors - Risks Related to our wholly owned subsidiary Netvision - Changes in the regulatory environment could adversely affect Netvision's business" and "Item 4. Information on the Company – Government Regulations – Competition".

Regulation and Licenses – Netvision's operations in the telephony business are subject to regulation, mostly pursuant to the provisions of the Communications Law and the regulations promulgated thereafter, the Communications Regulations (Telecommunications and Broadcasting) (Procedures and Conditions for the Receipt of General License for the Provision of the International Telecommunications Services) – 2004, or the ILD Regulations, with respect to its ILD business, and to the provisions of its ILD licenses, and the Communications Regulations (Telecommunications and Broadcasting) (Procedures and Conditions for the Receipt of General unique License) – 2004 with respect to its VOB services and the provisions its landline licenses and its 'network end point' license.

Netvision's main ILD license is held by its wholly owned subsidiary 013 Netvision and expires on May 2025, and its main landline license is held by another wholly owned limited partnership Veidan Teleconferencing Solutions LP, or Veidan, and expires on March 2026. Each of the licenses may be extended by the Ministry of Communications for successive periods of ten years, provided that Netvision has complied with each such license and applicable law, respectively, has continually invested in the improvement of its services and network pursuant to such license and has demonstrated the ability to continue to do so in the future.

Table of Contents

The main provisions of Netvision's principal ILD and landline licenses are the following:

- The license holder is required to interconnect its network to other public telecommunications networks in Israel, on equal terms and without discrimination, in order to enable subscribers of all operators to communicate with one another;
- The license holder may not take any action or be party to any arrangement which might adversely affect competition in the market;
- The license holder is required to, among other things, maintain a minimum standard of customer service, including, among other things, establishing call centers, maintaining a certain service level of its network, tariffs setting and updating and protecting the privacy of subscribers;
- The licenses or any part thereof may not be transferred, pledged or encumbered without the prior approval of the Ministry of Communications. The licenses also set forth restrictions on the sale, lease or pledge of any assets used for implementing the licenses;
- Pursuant to these licenses and the Israeli Communications Regulations (Royalties), 2001, the license holders were required to pay the State of Israel royalties equal to 1% of their eligible revenues, until December 31, 2012. No royalties are to be paid for 2013 and thereafter;
- The license holders are required to obtain insurance coverage for their activities pursuant to these licenses. In addition, the licenses impose statutory liability for any loss or damage caused to a third party as a result of establishing, sustaining, maintaining or operating the license holder's network. The license holders have further undertaken to indemnify the State of Israel for any monetary obligation imposed on the State of Israel in the event of such loss or damage. For the purpose of guaranteeing our obligations under these license, Netvision deposited bank guarantees for this liability under the ILD and landline licenses in the amounts of \$9 million and \$11 million, respectively, with the Ministry of Communications, which may be forfeited in the event that the license holder violates the terms of its license.
- The transfer or pledge of means of control in the license holder is prohibited without the prior written consent of the Ministry of Communications, if, as a result of such transfer, a person (1) becomes a 5% holder or more in the license holder; or (2) acquires the ability to effect a significant influence over us (in this context, holding 25% of our means of control is presumed to confer significant influence); or (3) becomes a controlling shareholder.

In addition, the ILD Regulations impose certain restrictions on cross-ownership in ILD operators, such as the prohibition on landline operators or holders of material international transmission infrastructure or on persons in which an ILD operator holds 5% or more from holding an ILD license. There are additional restrictions on cross-ownership in ILD operators under the ILD Regulations, which may be waived by the Ministry of Communications on grounds of public welfare or encouragement of competition in the communications market. For a regulatory change that was adopted by the Israeli Ministry of Communications in February 2011, pursuant to which cellular operators were permitted, under certain conditions, to have significant influence over an ILD operator, and pursuant to

Table of Contents

which we were permitted to acquire Netvision in 2011 (and also enabled the acquisition of Smile by Partner), see this Item 4.B above under "- Government Regulation – Long Distance Services".

For a possible change to the license formation see "-Government Regulations - Possible unified license" above.

In August 2012, the Ministry of Communications imposed restrictions regarding cooperation between cellular and ILD operators in relation to prepaid calling cards.

In addition to its principal landline and ILD telephony licenses, Netvision (through its wholly owned limited partnership Veidan and wholly owned subsidiary 013 Netvision, respectively) received from the Israeli Civil Administration in Judea and Samaria a license for the provision of landline and ILD services to the Israeli-populated areas in Judea and Samaria, effective until October 2017 and August 2018, respectively. The provisions of the principal licenses described above, generally apply to those licenses, as well, subject to certain modifications.

In addition to its ISP, ILD and landline licenses, Netvision holds (through its wholly owned subsidiary 013 Netvision) a 'network end point' license to mainly install and maintain telecommunications equipment at a customer's premises or the licensee's premises, which include telephones, switchboards, telephony cables and related equipment as well as enables Netvision to connect a customer premises, through other license holders, to the public landline network. The license is valid until July 2017 and can be renewed subject to certain conditions, including the license holder's compliance with the terms of the license. A second 'network end point' license was received from the Israeli Civil Administration in Judea and Samaria and is effective until July 2017.

In addition, as a service provider, Netvision is subject, like us, to the general legislation governing relations between vendors and consumers, including the Consumer Protection Law, 1981.

In August 2011, the Communications Law was amended pursuant to which the Early Termination Fees in the ILD and in the landline telephony market were annulled, which led to an increase in competition, churn rates and rate of gross recruitment of subscribers and price erosion.

In December 2011, the Ministry of Communications cancelled the 'ADSL only' service and required Bezeq to set a unified tariff for ADSL services, whether the customer purchases another service from Bezeq or not, such tariff to include the relative cost of the access service. This change has facilitated Netvision's competitive standing in the landline market as it reduced of the access service costs.

C. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The IDB Group

Our largest shareholder, DIC, is a majority-owned subsidiary of IDB Development Corporation Ltd., or IDB Development, which in turn is a wholly-owned subsidiary of IDB Holding Corporation Ltd., or IDB, one of Israel's largest business groups. IDB and DIC are public Israeli companies traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. IDB Development ceased being a public company in 2009 following the acquisitions of all its shares that were held by the public, but its debentures continue to be traded on the TASE. See the footnote to the table under "Item 7.A – Major Shareholders" for information on the holdings in IDB.

Table of Contents

Netvision and 013 Netvision, our wholly owned subsidiary and wholly owned indirect company, respectively, incorporated in Israel, are our only significant subsidiaries.

D. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Headquarters

In August 2003, we entered into a long-term agreement for the lease of our headquarters in Netanya, Israel. The leased property covers approximately 57,800 square meters, of which approximately 26,000 square meters consist of underground parking lots. The lease is in effect until December 31, 2019 and is renewable for two additional periods of five years each, upon our notice.

Central Laboratory

In October 2010, we entered into a long-term agreement for the enlargement of our techno-logistic center, including our new central laboratory, in Netanya, Israel, and the lease thereof. The leased property covers approximately 11,000 square meters. The lease is for a term of ten years from August 2011 and is renewable for an additional period of 5 years, at our option. In case we do not exercise the option we shall be required to pay approximately NIS 11 million.

Netvision Properties

Netvision leases two main properties in Israel: one in Haifa and the other in Rosh-Ha'ayin. Netvision uses these properties for its offices, for its call centers, and for its network servers, as well as for equipment storage and until December 2011, has used them as headquarters as well. The Haifa lease covers approximately 8,900 square meters, is in effect until April 2017, and may be terminated by Netvision in April 2015 subject to prior notice. The Rosh-Ha'ayin lease covers approximately 8,400 square meters, is in effect until December 2019, may be terminated by Netvision as of May 2013 by written notice and a certain compensation. Netvision intends to sublease part of the property in Rosh-Ha'ayin and is considering its steps regarding the property in Haifa.

Electricity

In December 2010, we entered into an agreement with Ashdod Energy Ltd. (subsequently assigned to Ramat Negev Energy Ltd.), expected to construct a private power plant fueled by natural gas in Israel, by the end of 2014. Under the agreement as amended in July 2012, we committed to purchase electricity for the earlier of a period of 15 years from commencement of operations of the power plant or until January 2028, subject to our right to terminate the agreement after 6 years from the commencement of operations of the power plant under certain conditions.

Service centers, points of sale and cell sites

As of December 31, 2012, we leased approximately 80 service centers, points of sale and other facilities (including those operated by our wholly owned dealer), which are used for marketing, sales and customer service. Lease agreements for our retail stores and service centers are generally for periods of two to three years, with extension options that vary by location.

Table of Contents

In addition, we lease from various parties, including the Israeli Land Authority, or ILA, municipalities and private entities sites for the establishment, maintenance and operation of cell sites for our cellular network. The duration of these lease agreements varies and ranges, in most cases, from two to five years, with an option to extend the lease for successive similar periods. The lease agreements also differ from each other in aspects such as payment terms and exit windows that enable us to terminate the agreement prior to its scheduled expiration. In some of the agreements, the lessor is entitled to terminate the agreement at any time without cause, subject to prior notice. Based on our past experience, we encounter difficulties in extending the term of approximately 7% of the lease agreements for cell sites, which at times results in our having to pay substantially higher rent in order to remain in the same locations or to find alternative sites.

In addition, Netvision leases a number of points of presence in Israel that are used for equipment and servers storage and storage of operators and other communications equipment for the provision of landline telephony services, and leases storage space for its servers and equipment in New York City, London and Frankfurt.

Authorization agreement with land regulatory authorities

In October 2005, we entered into an authorization agreement with the ILA (which manages the lands of the Development Authority and the Jewish National Fund) that authorizes us to use lands managed by the ILA for the establishment and operation of cell sites. The authorization agreement is effective until December 31, 2009 and the parties have agreed to extend it until December 31, 2010. We have been negotiating the renewal of the agreement with the ILA, in light of the ILA's demand for increased consideration and we estimate that the agreement will be renewed. Any delay in the renewal of the agreement may cause a delay in the construction of new cell sites on the lands managed by the ILA.

The authorization agreement provides that subject to the receipt of approval from the ILA, we will be entitled to establish and operate cell sites on the lands leased to third parties throughout the agreement's term. In connection with the authorization agreement we undertook to vacate at the end of the agreement's term all facilities installed in the authorized area unless the authorization period is extended.

Under the authorization agreement, the ILA is entitled to revoke authorizations granted to us in the event of changes in the designation of the land on which a cell site was erected, in the event that we violate a fundamental condition of the authorization agreement, in the event that the holders of rights in the properties on which we erected cell sites breach the agreements between them and the ILA and in the event that the land on which a cell site was erected is required for public use.

ITEM 4A. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 5. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS

The following operating and financial review and prospects should be read in conjunction with "Item 3. Key Information – A- Selected Financial Data" and our consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes appearing elsewhere in this annual report. Our financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International

Table of Contents

Financial Reporting Standards, or IFRS, which differ in certain respects from U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, or U.S. GAAP. Following our adoption of IFRS, as issued by the IASB, we are no longer required to reconcile our financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS to U.S. GAAP.

This discussion contains forward-looking statements. We have based these forward-looking statements on our current expectations and projections about future events. Our actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of many important factors, including those set forth under "Item 3. Key Information – D. Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this annual report.

A. OPERATING RESULTS

Overview

General

We are the largest provider of cellular communications services in Israel with approximately 3.199 million cellular subscribers as of December 31, 2012, with an estimated market share of 31.9%.

2012 and more specifically the second half of 2012, was characterized by additional radical changes in market conditions, which, in turn, resulted in radical adverse effects to our results of operations following the negative changes we encountered in 2010-2011 due to regulatory pressures, leading to a reduction in our net income, operating profit and EBITDA by 35.6%, 30.7% and 19.1%, respectively, in comparison to 2011. These trends have continued into 2013 and are expected to continue to further adversely affect our results of operations. See Item 3. Risk Factors - "We face intense competition in all aspects of our business" and "We are facing substantial organizational and personnel changes" and "Item 4. Information on the Company - B. Business Overview – Competition", for additional details. During 2012 we have continually implemented aggressive efficiency measures in order to mitigate those adverse effects. Those measures led to an annual saving run rate of approximately NIS 550 million (when comparing fourth quarter 2012 expenses with fourth quarter 2011 expenses). We intend to continue to implement substantial organizational and personnel changes in order to continue our efforts to mitigate the progressing adverse effects of the changing market conditions. We cannot guarantee the success of these measures. Although to date, those measures did not have a negative effect on our operations, further cutbacks and changes may have an adverse effect on our service and customer service quality.

We earn revenues and generate our primary sources of cash by offering a broad range of communications services, including cellular, ISP, ILD and landline services. Our cellular services include basic and advanced cellular telephone services, text and multimedia messaging services and advanced cellular content and data services, which we provide through our network covering substantially all of the populated territory of Israel. We also provide international roaming services to our subscribers in 179 countries as of December 31, 2012 as well as to subscribers of foreign networks visiting Israel. We offer our subscribers a wide selection of handsets of various leading global manufacturers as well as extended warranty services. We have an advanced fiber-optic transmission infrastructure of approximately 1,600 kilometers. Together with our complementary microwave-based infrastructure, our fiber-optic infrastructure connects the majority of our cell sites with the

Table of Contents

remainder connected using supplemental transmission capacity leased from Bezeq, the incumbent landline operator. Having our own transmission network enables us to save substantial operating cash lease costs that would be associated with complete reliance on Bezeq's infrastructure, although these savings are partially offset by maintenance costs and microwave spectrum fees. It also allows us to sell transmission and data services to business customers and telecommunications operators. We provide advanced landline services, through our NGN system, to selected landline business customers. In addition, following the acquisition of Netvision in 2011, we provide internet connectivity and related services (ISP) and landline telephony services consisting mainly of international calling services, operator services, teleconferencing services and landline telephony services. As of mid 2012, we offer bundles of services including cellular, ISP, ILD and landline services to our customers.

Our management evaluates our performance through focusing on our key performance indicators, which include among others: number of cellular, landline and ISP subscribers, ILD minutes of usage, subscribers churn rate, average minutes of usage per cellular, landline and ISP subscribers, or MOU, average revenue per cellular, landline and ISP subscribers, or ARPU, EBITDA (as defined in "Results of Operations"), operating income and net income. These key performance indicators are primarily affected by the competitive and regulatory landscape in which we operate and our ability to adapt to the challenges posed.

Our competitive landscape is characterized primarily by a highly penetrated cellular market. Competition is intense and attracting new subscribers and retaining existing subscribers has become increasingly difficult and costly. The competition in our market has further intensified in 2012 following the entry into the market of additional competitors, specifically the launch of two new UMTS operators in May 2012 - Hot Mobile and Golan, using national roaming on Pelephone's and our networks (respectively) and aiming to win market share by introducing significantly lower tariffs than market level at that time, leading to substantially accelerated price erosion, a materially increased churn rate, increased subscriber acquisition and retention costs and a material decrease in revenues and profitability for us. This was preceded by regulatory and other changes, which contributed to the intensified competition and increased price erosion during 2011 including the compulsory reduction of Early Termination Fees in February 1, 2011 and the formation of communications groups, which led to the offering of bundles of services and Unlimited Packages, at lower average revenue per minute, or ARPU. Competition may intensify further if current trends continue and following annulment or further relaxation of the structural separation imposed on each of the Bezeq and Hot groups. Following our acquisition of Netvision, we compete in additional markets, including ISP and ILD services. Competition in these markets increased and may intensify further following the annulment or further relaxation of the structural separation imposed on each of the Bezeq and Hot groups and the offering of bundles of services, which are expected to involve further price erosion. Also, the offering of services by the Bezeq and Hot groups at tariffs significantly lower than prevailing market tariffs or at prices which would be, in some cases, below our costs for such services, by cross subsidizing with other services in which they have the capacity to monopolize the market, is expected to increase competition in those markets and lead to further price erosion and possible loss of market share by us. These trends are expected to further adversely affect our results of operations. We will continue to implement efficiency measures in an effort to mitigate such effects. See "Item 3. Key Information – D. Risk Factors - We face intense competition in all aspects of our business" and "Risks Related to our wholly owned subsidiary Netvision - Changes in the regulatory environment could adversely affect

Table of Contents

Netvision's business" and "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview – Competition" and "Netvision – ISP Business - Competition".

We intend to drive revenue primarily by: maximizing the benefits of our position as a leading Israeli telecommunications group, offering our customers full and comprehensive mobile and wireline solutions and enhancing our competitive capabilities, retaining our existing subscribers; offering new services that will complete our offering as a telecommunications group and services which are synergetic to our core businesses, as well as growing and developing our mobile data and value added services and wireline services revenues; and attracting new subscribers. We intend to continue our efforts to optimize our costs by implementing further aggressive efficiency measures, reducing our expenses and investments and adjusting our operations to the changing market conditions, but cannot guarantee the success of these measures.

The communications market and specifically the cellular industry are primarily regulated by the Ministry of Communications. See "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview - Government Regulations." While our pricing is not generally regulated, certain of our rates and pricing mechanisms are subject to regulation. The reduction of interconnect tariffs, beginning January 1, 2011 (for details see "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview – Government Regulations – Tariff Supervision") had a material adverse effect on our results in 2011 and 2012 and is expected to continue to adversely affect our results in the future.

As of February 2011, we were required to reduce Early Termination Fees to a negligible amount in the cellular market, and it was thereafter annulled completely. As of November 2011, we may not charge any Early Termination Fees for other communications services, under an amendment to the Communications Law, which applies to existing as well as new pricing plans. See additional details under "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview – Government Regulations – Tariff Supervision."

The construction and operation of our cell sites and other transmission facilities are highly regulated and require us to obtain various consents and permits. See "Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview - Government Regulations—Permits for Cell Site Construction." We have experienced difficulties in obtaining some of these consents and permits, particularly in obtaining building permits for cell sites from local planning and building authorities and as of September 2010, cannot rely on the exemption from obtaining a building permit due to an interim order issued by the Israeli Supreme Court to that effect, except for the replacement of existing radio access devices under certain conditions. Also, we may be operating a significant number of our cell sites in a manner not fully compatible with the building permits issued for them. However, even though 10 criminal and administrative proceedings (with four cell sites subject to a demolition order) are outstanding as of December 31, 2012, we do not expect that the demolition of these facilities would have a material impact on our results of operations and financial condition. Additional restrictions on the construction and operation of cell sites and other facilities may be enacted by amendment to the Non-Ionizing Radiation Law and Regulations. If such restrictions are subsequently adopted, they will, among other things, limit our ability to construct new sites and renew operating permits for many of our existing sites, especially in residential areas, will adversely affect our existing networks and networks build out, specifically in urban areas, and could adversely affect our results of operations. National Zoning Plan 36 is in the process of being revised. If proposed changes are approved, they will harm our ability to construct new cell sites, make the process of obtaining building permits

Table of Contents

for the construction and operation of cell sites more cumbersome and costly, could adversely affect our existing network, and may delay the future deployment of our network. Moreover, if we are unable to obtain or renew consents and permits or rely on exemptions from obtaining permits for our existing sites or other facilities, we will be required to demolish or relocate these cell sites and facilities. Our inability to relocate cell sites or other facilities in a timely manner and/or our inability to obtain the permits and consents for new cell sites, or rely on exemptions, could adversely affect our existing network resulting in the loss of subscribers, prevent us from meeting the networks coverage and quality requirements contained in our license and adversely impact our networks build-out, all of which may have a material adverse result on our results of operations and financial condition.

Our profitability is also affected by other factors, including changes in our cost of revenues and selling, marketing, general and administrative expenses, including depreciation and financing expenses, which are also affected by changes in the CPI.

Our results are also impacted by currency fluctuations. While substantially all of our revenues are denominated in NIS, for 2012, approximately 36% of cash outflow was denominated in, or linked to, other currencies, mainly U.S. dollars. These payments included capital expenditures, some cell site rental fees and payments for equipment including handset suppliers. Changes to the Israeli CPI, may also impact our results as our debentures (excluding Series E and G) and some of our expenses are linked to the Israeli CPI. Any devaluation of the NIS against the U.S. dollar or other foreign currencies will therefore increase the NIS cost of our expenses that are not denominated in NIS or are linked to those currencies and any increase in the Israeli CPI will increase the financial expenses associated with our debentures. We enter into derivative instruments to mitigate the effect of the various market risks associated with these expenses. See “Item 11 - Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.”

Further, we have incurred significant debt by issuing debentures, the aggregate outstanding principal amount of which as of December 31, 2012 was NIS 6,443 million. See “—Liquidity and Capital Resources— A. Debt Service – Public Debentures”.

In February 2006, our Board of Directors adopted a policy to distribute each year at least 75% of our annual net income. In March 2007, our Board resolved to distribute dividends within the boundaries of the February 2006 dividend policy and until resolved otherwise, on a quarterly basis.

In respect of 2012, a dividend was declared for the first quarter only and our board of directors chose not to declare dividends for the second, third and fourth quarters given the intensified competition and substantial changes in pricing and in order to strengthen our balance sheet. In March 2012, in connection with raising of additional debt, we undertook limitations on our dividend distributions. See “Item 8. Financial Information – A. Statements and Other Financial Information - Dividend Policy” and “— B. Liquidity and Capital Resources—Dividend payments.” and “- Debt Service –Shelf Prospectus”.

Acquisition of Netvision Ltd.

On August 31, 2011, we completed the acquisition of 100% of the share capital of Netvision for a total consideration of approximately NIS 1.57 billion (\$421 million) pursuant to a merger agreement dated June 15, 2011, by and among our Company, Netvision and a wholly owned subsidiary of our Company, which we formed solely for effecting the merger

Table of Contents

transaction. Following the consummation of the merger transaction, Netvision became a wholly owned subsidiary of our Company. We funded the acquisition of Netvision through a combination of available cash and issuance of additional debentures from our Series D and Series E debenture series on the TASE. The offerings described above were made in Israel to residents of Israel only. For further details, see "Item 5. B – Operating and Financial Review and Prospects – Liquidity and Capital Resources". For Additional details see "Item 4. Information on the Company - Acquisition of Netvision Ltd. During 2011."

Since the acquisition of Netvision's share capital was completed on August 31, 2011, the consolidated results for the year ended December 31, 2011, included elsewhere in this annual report, include Netvision's results for the months of September through December 2011 only.

In regards to Netvision's results for 2012 compared with its results for the full year of 2011, there was a 5% decrease in revenues due to increased competition, which was more than compensated by a higher decrease in operating expenses due to efficiency measures implemented since the acquisition by us, resulting in an increase in operating income and net income.

Revenues

We derive our revenues primarily from the sale of cellular network services (such as airtime and data surfing), handsets and other services, including content and value added services, extended handset warranties and the provision of transmission and landline services. Revenues from airtime are derived from cellular subscribers originating calls on our network and from interconnect revenues from other operators for calls terminating on our network. Since the second quarter of 2012 we also derive our revenues from hosting services. Revenues also include roaming charges that we bill to our subscribers for the use of the networks of our roaming partners outside Israel, to which we refer as outbound roaming, and charges that we bill to our roaming partners whose subscribers use our network, to which we refer as inbound roaming.

Since the acquisition of Netvision, we also derive our revenues from the provision of internet connectivity and related services (ISP); and provision of telephony services consisting mainly of international calling services, operator services, teleconferencing services and landline telephony services. In addition, Netvision's revenues are also derived from additional business activities such as internet content services and custom internet applications.

Our revenues from cellular services are usually affected by seasonality with the third quarter of the year characterized by higher roaming revenues due to increased incoming and outgoing tourism.

Cost of revenues

The principal components of our cost of revenues are the purchase of handsets, accessories, equipment and spare parts, interconnect fees, content cost, cell site leasing costs, transmission services cost, internet connectivity services, the purchase of call minutes related mainly to international call services, outbound roaming services fees, royalty payments to the government of Israel, salaries and network development and maintenance. Our cost of revenues also includes depreciation of the cost of our network equipment and amortization of

Table of Contents

our spectrum licenses, rights of use of communications lines and capitalized handset subsidies. See “—Application of Critical Accounting Policies and Use of Estimates—Long-lived assets - depreciation.”

Selling and marketing expenses

Selling and marketing expenses consist primarily of sales force salaries and commissions, advertising, public relations and promotional expenses. We compensate our sales force through salaries and incentives. Our selling and marketing expenses also include depreciation, mainly of leasehold improvements and equipment in our service centers and points of sales and amortization of capitalized sales commissions, as well as amortization of intangible assets related to the acquisition of Netvision.

General and administrative expenses

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of salaries and compensation, professional and consultancy fees, leases and maintenance of our offices, bad debt and doubtful accounts allowance, and other administrative expenses. Our general and administrative expenses also include depreciation and maintenance fees, mainly for our billing and information systems.

Other income and expenses

Other income and expenses consist primarily of capital gains or losses from sale and disposal of capital assets and from sales of subsidiaries.

Financing income and expenses

Financing income and expenses consist primarily of interest expense on long-term and short-term loans and interest on our debentures, the interest income component of handset long-term installment sales, the effects of fluctuations in currency exchange rates, Israeli CPI adjustments related to the Israeli CPI-linked debentures and other expenses, and income or losses relating to financial derivative instruments that do not qualify for hedge accounting according to IFRS. Financing income and expenses also include interest income on deposits, premium amortization associated with our debentures, and gains and losses from our current investment in tradable securities.

Income Tax

Generally, Israeli companies were subject to corporate tax on their taxable income at the rate of 25% for the 2010 tax year, which decreased to 24% for the 2011 tax year and increased again to 25% for the 2012 tax year and onwards. Israeli companies are subject to capital gains tax at the corporate tax rate. A deferred tax asset or liability is created for temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes.

In December 2011, the Israeli Income Tax Ordinance was amended following the tax recommendations of the Israeli public committee for socio-economic reform. The amendment includes, among other things, cancellation of the previously scheduled reduction in the corporate tax rate, so that the corporate tax rate increased to 25% commencing January 1, 2012 and will remain at such rate for future tax years (corporate tax rate for 2011 was 24% and was scheduled to gradually decrease to 18% by 2016). Following this amendment, we

Table of Contents

incurred in the fourth quarter of 2011 a one-time deferred tax expense in the amount of approximately NIS 33 million, as a result of an increase in deferred tax liability.

Results of Operations - Comparison of 2010, 2011 and 2012

The following table sets forth key performance indicators for the periods indicated:

	Year Ended December 31,						Change*	
	2010		2011		2012		2011 vs. 2010	2012 vs. 2011
Subscribers at end of period(1) (in thousands)	3,394		3,349		3,199		(1.3 %)	(4.5 %)
Churn rate of cellular subscribers(1)(2)	20.5	%	25.1	%	31.5	%	4.6 pp	6.4 pp
Average monthly usage per subscriber (MOU) (in minutes)(1)(3)	335		346		390		3.3 %	12.7 %
Average monthly revenue per subscriber (ARPU) (1)(4) (in NIS)	144		106		88		(26.3 %)	(17.5 %)
Operating income (in NIS millions)	1,938		1,422		985		(26.6 %)	(30.7 %)
Net income (in NIS millions)	1,291		825		531		(36.1 %)	(35.6 %)
EBITDA(5) (in NIS millions)	2,667		2,167		1,753		(18.7 %)	(19.1 %)
Operating income margin(6)	29.1	%	21.9	%	16.6	%	(7.2) pp	(5.3) pp
EBITDA margin(7)	40.0	%	33.3	%	29.5	%	(6.7) pp	(3.8) pp

*pp denotes percentage points and this measure of change is calculated by subtracting the 2010 measure from the 2011 measure and the 2011 measure from the 2012 measure, respectively.

(1) Cellular subscriber data refers to active subscribers. We use a six-month method of calculating our cellular subscriber base, which means that we deduct subscribers from our subscriber base after six months of no revenue generation and activity on our network by or in relation to both the post-paid and pre-paid subscriber. The six-month method is, to the best of our knowledge, consistent with the methodology used by other cellular providers in Israel. During the fourth quarter of 2011, we removed approximately 52,000 subscribers from our subscribers base, which included subscribers using our TDMA network who had not requested a transfer to our other networks following the shutdown of our TDMA network as of December 31, 2011, and subscribers who ceased using our services following a change to our policy which previously allowed subscribers to change from post to prepaid subscription as a result of the reduction of Early Termination Fees in the cellular market in early 2011. These changes affected other key performance indicators. We have not restated prior subscriber data to conform with these changes. In the fourth quarter of 2012 we added a revenue generation criterion of at least NIS 1 of accumulated revenues over the six months period, for M2M (machine to machine) subscribers, which means that any M2M subscriber generating less than NIS 1 of accumulated revenues will not be counted as a subscriber. The addition of the NIS 1 generation criterion resulted in the removal of 138,000 M2M subscribers from our subscriber base in the fourth quarter of 2012. We have not restated prior subscriber data to conform with this change. This change had an immaterial effect on our MOU and ARPU for 2012.

(2) Churn rate is defined as the total number of voluntary and involuntary permanent deactivations of cellular subscribers in a given period expressed as a percentage of the number of cellular subscribers at the beginning of such period. Involuntary permanent deactivations relate to cellular subscribers who have failed to pay their arrears for the period of six consecutive months. Voluntary permanent deactivations relate to cellular subscribers who terminated their use of our services. Churn rate data is excluding the above mentioned removal of subscribers.

(3) Average monthly minutes of use per cellular subscriber (MOU) is calculated by dividing the total billable minutes (of outgoing and incoming cellular calls from other networks, excluding roaming usage) during the month, by the average number of cellular subscribers during such month, and by dividing the sum of such results for all months in the reported period by the number of months in the period.

(4) Average monthly revenue per cellular subscriber (ARPU) is calculated by dividing revenues from cellular services for the period by the average number of cellular subscribers during the period and by dividing the result by the number of months in the period. Revenues from inbound roaming services and hosting services are included even though the number of subscribers in the equation does not include the users of those roaming and hosting services. Inbound roaming services and hosting services are included because ARPU is meant to capture all service revenues generated by a cellular network. Revenues from sales of extended warranties are included because they represent recurring revenues generated by subscribers, but revenues from sales of handsets (which for purposes of this report may include other types of cellular end user equipment, such as tablets), repair services, and other services are not. We and industry analysts, treat ARPU as a key performance indicator of a cellular operator because it is the closest meaningful measure of the contribution to service revenues made by an average subscriber.

We have set out below the calculation of cellular ARPU for each of the periods presented:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2011	2012
	(In NIS millions, except number of subscribers and months)		
Revenues	6,662	6,506	5,938
less revenues from equipment sales	802	1,747	1,356
less other revenues*	124	484	1,125
Revenues used in ARPU calculation (in NIS millions)	5,736	4,275	3,457
Average number of subscribers	3,322,891	3,361,803	3,291,843
Months during period	12	12	12
ARPU (in NIS, per month)	144	106	88

* Other revenues include revenues from other communications services such as ISP, transmission services and local and international landline services and repair services.

Table of Contents

(5) EBITDA is a non-IFRS measure and is defined as income before financing income (expenses), net; other income (expenses), net; income tax; depreciation and amortization; share based payments. We present EBITDA as a supplemental performance measure because we believe that it facilitates operating performance comparisons from period to period and company to company by backing out potential differences caused by variations in capital structure (most particularly affecting our interest expense given our significant debt), tax positions (such as the impact on periods or companies of changes in effective tax rates or net operating losses) and the age of, and depreciation expenses associated with fixed assets. EBITDA should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for operating income or other statement of operations or cash flow data prepared in accordance with IFRS as a measure of our profitability or liquidity. EBITDA does not take into account our debt service requirements and other commitments, including capital expenditures, and, accordingly, is not necessarily indicative of amounts that may be available for discretionary uses. In addition, EBITDA, as presented in this annual report, may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies due to differences in the way these measures are calculated.

The following is a reconciliation of EBITDA with net income and operating income:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2011	2012
	(In NIS millions)		
Net income	1,291	825	531
Financing expenses, net	230	293	259
Taxes on income	417	304	195
Operating income	1,938	1,422	985
Other expenses (income), net	5	1	(4)
Depreciation and amortization	724	738	765
Share based payments	-	6	7
EBITDA	2,667	2,167	1,753

The following is a reconciliation of EBITDA with net income by segments:

	Year Ended December 31, 2012			
	(In NIS millions)			
	Reconciliation for			
	Cellcom	Netvision	consolidation	Consolidated
Net income	464	145	(78)	531
Financing expenses, net				259
Taxes on income	190	31	(26)	195
Operating income				985
Other income				(4)
Depreciation and amortization	554	107	104	765
Share based payments				7
EBITDA	1,470	283	-	1,753

	Year Ended December 31, 2011			
	(In NIS millions)			
	Reconciliation for			
	Cellcom	Netvision*	consolidation	Consolidated

Edgar Filing: Cellcom Israel Ltd. - Form 20-F

Net income	821	39	(35)	825
Financing expenses, net				293
Taxes on income	313	2	(11)	304
Operating income				1,422
Other expenses				1
Depreciation and amortization	652	40	46	738
Share based payments				6
EBITDA	2,084	83	-	2,167

* Netvision segment represents results of operations for the four month period commencing September 1, 2011, only (following the completion of the acquisition of Netvision on August 31, 2011).

Table of Contents

(6) Operating income margin is defined as operating income as a percentage of total revenues for each of the applicable periods.

(7) EBITDA margin is defined as EBITDA as a percentage of total revenues for each of the applicable periods.

The following table sets forth our consolidated statements of income as a percentage of total revenues from operations for the periods indicated:

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2010		2011		2012	
Revenues	100.0	%	100.0	%	100.0	%
Cost of revenues	49.9	%	52.4	%	58.3	%
Gross profit	50.1	%	47.6	%	41.7	%
Selling and marketing expenses	11.3	%	15.2	%	14.6	%
General and administrative expenses	9.6	%	10.5	%	10.6	%
Other (income) expenses, net	0.1	%	-		(0.1)	%
Operating income	29.1	%	21.9	%	16.6	%
Financing expenses, net	3.5	%	4.5	%	4.4	%
Income before income tax	25.6	%	17.4	%	12.2	%
Income tax	6.2	%	4.7	%	3.3	%
Net income	19.4	%	12.7	%	8.9	%

Revenues

	Year Ended December 31,			Change	
	2010	2011	2012	2011 vs.	2012 vs.
	(In NIS millions)			2010	2011
Revenues	6,662	6,506	5,938	(2.3 %)	(8.7 %)

The decrease in revenues in 2012 is attributable to a 22.4% decrease in equipment revenues, as well as a 3.7% decrease in service revenues, compared with 2011 due to the increased competition in the cellular market, intensified further by the entry of new operators to the Israeli cellular market. Netvision's contribution to total revenues for 2012 totaled NIS 1,047 million (excluding inter-company revenues), compared with NIS 374 million in 2011. The increase in Netvision's contribution to total revenues was mainly due to the consolidation of Netvision's results for September through December 2011 only in 2011 (following the completion of the acquisition of Netvision on August 31, 2011), while in 2012 we consolidated Netvision's results for the full year (hereinafter "difference in the period of consolidation of Netvision's results").

The decrease in revenues in 2011 was attributed to an 18.8% decrease in service revenues as a result of the regulatory changes implemented in early 2011 and the increased competition, which resulted in significant airtime price erosion. The decrease in service revenues was partially offset by a 117.8% increase in equipment revenues in 2011, as well as by Netvision's revenues (for the period from September through December 2011) in the amount of NIS 374 million (excluding inter-company revenues), which were consolidated for the first time.

The following table sets forth the breakdown of our revenues for the periods indicated based on the various sources thereof:

Table of Contents

	2010			2011			2012		
	Revenues (NIS in millions)	% of Total Revenues		Revenues (NIS in millions)	% of Total Revenues		Revenues (NIS in millions)	% of Total Revenues	
Service revenues:									
Cellular services*	5,457	81.9	%	4,047	62.2	%	3,279	55.2	%
Landline services	178	2.7	%	272	4.2	%	599	10.1	%
Internet services (ISP)	-	-		216	3.3	%	531	9.0	%
Other services**	225	3.4	%	224	3.4	%	173	2.9	%
Total service revenues	5,860	88.0	%	4,759	73.1	%	4,582	77.2	%
Equipment revenues	802	12.0	%	1,747	26.9	%	1,356	22.8	%
Total revenues	6,662	100.0	%	6,506	100.0	%	5,938	100.0	%

* We have ceased to detail separately the cellular services since most of the marketing plans, which are currently sold, include service packages which include unlimited air time minutes and SMS, as well as cellular surfing.

** Consists of extended warranty fees.

During 2012, service revenues (comprising 77.2% of total revenues) decreased 3.7%, compared with 2011. This decrease in service revenues resulted mainly from the ongoing erosion in the price of cellular services, resulting from the increased competition in the market intensified further by the entry of new operators to the Israeli cellular market. Most of this decrease was offset by an increase in Netvision's contribution to service revenues, which totaled NIS 965 million (excluding inter-company revenues) in 2012, as compared to NIS 339 million in 2011. The increase in Netvision's contribution to service revenues was mainly due to the difference in the period of consolidation of Netvision's results. After elimination of Netvision's contribution to service revenues, service revenues for 2012 decreased 18.2% compared to 2011.

During 2011, service revenues (comprising 73.1% of total revenues) decreased by approximately 19%, compared with 2010. This decrease in service revenues resulted mainly from a significant decrease in interconnect fees paid to us by other local operators, due to the reduction in interconnect tariffs as of January 1, 2011 and the reduction in Early Termination Fees due to the regulatory changes, as well as from the ongoing airtime price erosion, due to the increased competition in the market. These decreases were partially offset by Netvision's service revenues (for the period from September 1 through December 31, 2011) in the amount of NIS 339 million (excluding inter-company revenues), which were consolidated for the first time.

The increase in revenues from landline services and in internet services in 2012 was mainly due to an increase in Netvision's contribution to those revenues as a result of the difference in the period of consolidation of Netvision's results.

The increase in revenues from landline services and internet services, in 2011 compared with 2010, was mainly attributed to Netvision's contribution to those revenues, which were consolidated for the first time.

During 2012, revenues from other services decreased 22.8%, compared with 2011. This decrease resulted from a decrease in extended warranty fees due to an increase in sales of iPhone handsets, to which we generally do not offer such services and following the intensified competition in the market, which led to increased churn rate. As a percentage of total revenues, revenues from other services decreased to 2.9% in 2012 from 3.4% in 2011.

During 2012, equipment revenues (comprising 22.8% of total revenues) decreased 22.4%, compared with 2011. This decrease resulted mainly from an approximately 37% decrease in the number of cellular handsets sold in 2012, as compared with 2011, due to regulatory changes, which led to the entry of many competitors to the cellular handsets

Table of Contents

market. This decrease was partially offset by a significant increase in revenues from sale of tablets in 2012 compared with 2011. The decrease in equipment revenues was also offset in part by an increase in Netvision's contribution to equipment revenues due to the difference in the period of consolidation of Netvision's results, which totaled NIS 82 million in 2012, compared to NIS 35 million in 2011.

During 2011, equipment revenues (comprising 26.9% of total revenues) increased by 117.8%, compared with 2010. This increase in equipment revenues resulted from an approximately 33% increase in the number of cellular handsets sold during 2011, as compared with 2010, as well as from an approximately 70% increase in the average cellular handset sale price due to a change in the mix of handsets sold, in favor of smartphones and advanced 3G handsets. The increase in the number of handsets sold resulted from the accelerated competition following the regulatory changes. The increase in equipment revenues also resulted from an increase in accessories sales in 2011 compared with 2010. Netvision's equipment revenues (for the period from September 1 through December 31, 2011) in the amount of NIS 35 million, which were consolidated for the first time, also contributed to the increase in equipment revenues.

The following table sets forth the breakdown of our revenues for the periods indicated based on the types of subscribers:

	2010			2011			2012		
	Revenues	% of Total Revenues		Revenues	% of Total Revenues		Revenues	% of Total Revenues	
	(NIS in millions)			(NIS in millions)			(NIS in millions)		
Individual	4,917	73.8 %		4,727	72.7 %		4,067	68.5 %	
Business	1,649	24.8 %		1,686	25.9 %		1,770	29.8 %	
Other*	96	1.4 %		93	1.4 %		101	1.7 %	
Total	6,662	100.0 %		6,506	100.0 %		5,938	100.0 %	

* Consists of revenues from inbound roaming services, hosting services (since mid 2012) and other services.

A breakdown of revenues according to types of subscribers (individual and business) during 2012 shows an approximately 14% decrease, compared with 2011, in revenues attributable to individual subscribers, which resulted mainly from the ongoing erosion in the price of cellular services, resulting from the intensified competition in the cellular market. The decrease also resulted from a decrease in the number of cellular handsets sold in 2012, as compared with 2011, due to regulatory changes, which led to the entry of many competitors to the cellular handsets market. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in Netvision's contribution to revenues from individual subscribers due to the difference in the period of consolidation of Netvision's results. Revenues attributable to business subscribers increased in 2012 by 5%, compared with 2011, due to an increase in Netvision's contribution to revenues from business customers due to the difference in the period of consolidation of Netvision's results. Other revenues increased 8.6% in 2012, compared with 2011, mainly due to revenues from hosting services we provide Golan and Home Cellular, which begun operating during the second quarter of 2012. The increase in other revenues was partially offset by a decrease in revenues from inbound roaming services.

A breakdown of revenues according to types of subscribers (individual and business) during 2011 shows an approximately 3.9% decrease, compared with 2010, in revenues attributable to individual subscribers, which resulted mainly from a decrease in revenues attributable to the significant decrease in interconnect fees paid to us by other local operators, due to the reduction in interconnect tariffs as of January 1, 2011, as a result of the reduction

Table of Contents

of cellular Early Termination Fees, as well as from the ongoing price erosion, which was partially offset by increased usage and by Netvision's revenues, which were consolidated for the first time. Revenues attributable to business subscribers increased in 2011 by 2.2%, compared with 2010, mainly due to Netvision's revenues from business customers, which are consolidated for the first time. This increase in revenues attributable to business customers was partially offset by the decrease in interconnect fees and the ongoing price erosion. Other revenues decreased 3.1% in 2011 compared with 2010, mainly due to a decrease in revenues from inbound roaming services.

The following table sets forth the breakdown of our revenues for the periods indicated based on the types of subscription plans:

	2010			2011			2012		
	Revenues (NIS in millions)	% of Total Revenues		Revenues (NIS in millions)	% of Total Revenues		Revenues (NIS in millions)	% of Total Revenues	
Pre-paid	675	10.1	%	488	7.5	%	430	7.2	%
Post-paid	5,891	88.5	%	5,925	91.1	%	5,407	91.1	%
Other*	96	1.4	%	93	1.4	%	101	1.7	%
Total	6,662	100.0	%	6,506	100.0	%	5,938	100.0	%

* Consists of revenues from inbound roaming services, hosting services (since mid 2012) and other services.

A breakdown of revenues according to types of subscription plans (pre-paid and post-paid) shows that the decrease in revenues in 2012 compared with 2011 resulted mainly from post-paid subscribers. This decrease was primarily the result of the ongoing erosion in the price of cellular services, resulting from the intensified competition in the cellular market, as well as by the decrease in equipment revenues, due to a decrease in the number of cellular handsets sold in 2012, as compared with 2011, due to regulatory changes, which led to the entry of many competitors to the cellular handsets market. The decrease in revenues attributable to post-paid subscribers was offset in part by an increase in Netvision's revenues from post-paid customers due to the difference in the period of consolidation of Netvision's results. The decrease in revenues attributable to pre-paid subscribers resulted mainly from increased churn of pre-paid cellular subscribers, as well as from the ongoing price erosion.

A breakdown of revenues according to types of subscription plans (pre-paid and post-paid) shows that the decrease in revenues in 2011 compared with 2010 resulted mainly from pre-paid subscribers. This decrease was primarily the result of the significant decrease in interconnect fees paid to us by other local operators, due to the reduction in interconnect tariffs as of January 1, 2011. The increase in revenues attributed to post-paid subscribers was mainly due to an increase in revenues from equipment sales and due to Netvision's revenues from post-paid customers, which were consolidated for the first time. These increases were partially offset by the significant decrease in interconnect fees, the reduction of cellular Early Termination Fees, as well as by the ongoing airtime price erosion, due to the increased competition in the market.

Cost of revenues and gross profit

	Year Ended December 31,			Change	
	2010	2011	2012	2011 vs. 2010	2012 vs. 2011
	(In NIS millions)				
Cost of service revenues	2,671	2,126	2,450	(20.4 %)	15.2 %
Cost of equipment revenues	651	1,282	1,013	96.9 %	(21.0 %)

Edgar Filing: Cellcom Israel Ltd. - Form 20-F

Total cost of revenues	3,322	3,408	3,463	2.6	%	1.6	%
Gross profit	3,340	3,098	2,475	(7.2	%)	(20.1	%)

106

Table of Contents

The increase in cost of service revenues in 2012, compared with 2011, is attributed to an increase in Netvision's contribution to cost of service revenues due to the difference in the period of consolidation of Netvision's results, which totaled NIS 692 million (excluding inter-company expenses) in 2012, compared with NIS 237 million in 2011. This increase was partially offset by a decrease in the cost of cellular service revenues in 2012, compared with 2011, which resulted mainly from a decrease in the cost of content and value added services, as well as depreciation and amortization expenses. After elimination of Netvision's contribution, cost of service revenues decreased 7.1%.

The decrease in cost of service revenues in 2011 compared with 2010, resulted from a significant decrease in total interconnect fees paid to other local cellular operators following the reduction in interconnect tariffs as of January 1, 2011. The decrease in cost of service revenues also resulted from a decrease in depreciation and amortization expenses. These decreases were partially offset by Netvision's cost of service revenues (for the period from September 1 through December 31, 2011) in the amount of NIS 237 million (excluding inter-company expenses), which was consolidated for the first time.

The decrease in cost of equipment revenues in 2012 compared with 2011, resulted primarily from a decrease in cellular handsets cost resulted mainly due to a decrease in the number of handsets sold during 2012 compared with 2011. Also, Netvision's cost of equipment revenues in 2012 totaled NIS 57 million, compared to NIS 27 million in 2011 (for the period from September 1 through December 31, 2011). After elimination of Netvision's contribution, cost of equipment revenues decreased 23.5%.

The increase in cost of equipment revenues in 2011 compared with 2010, resulted primarily from a significant increase in cellular handsets cost resulted mainly from an increase in the number of handsets sold during 2011 compared with 2010, as well as from a change in the mix of handsets sold, in favor of smartphones and advanced 3G handsets. Netvision's cost of equipment revenues (for the period from September 1 through December 31, 2011) in the amount of NIS 27 million, which was consolidated for the first time, also contributed to the increase in cost of equipment revenues.

The decrease in gross profit in 2012 compared with 2011, resulted mainly from the ongoing erosion in the price of cellular services, as well as from the decrease in cellular handsets sales. The decrease in gross profit was partially offset by an increase in Netvision's contribution to gross profit due to the difference in the period of consolidation of Netvision's results.

The decrease in gross profit in 2011 compared with 2010, resulted mainly from the significant decrease in interconnect fees paid to us by other local operators, the reduction of cellular Early Termination Fees, and the ongoing price erosion, which was partially offset by increased handsets sales.

Table of Contents

Selling and marketing expenses and general and administrative expenses

	Year Ended December 31,			Change	
	2010	2011	2012	2011 vs. 2010	2012 vs. 2011
	(In NIS millions)				
Selling and marketing expenses	756	990	865	31.0 %	(12.6 %)
General and administrative expenses	641	685	629	6.9 %	(8.2 %)
Total	1,397	1,675	1,494	19.9 %	(10.8 %)

The decrease in selling and marketing expenses in 2012 compared with 2011, was primarily the result of efficiency measures we implemented, which led to a decrease in payroll expenses, sales commissions, advertising and other expenses. The decrease in sales commissions also resulted from a decrease in the number of cellular handsets sold in 2012, as compared with 2011. The decrease in selling and marketing expenses also resulted from a decrease in amortization expenses related to capitalized sales commissions. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in Netvision's contribution to selling and marketing expenses from NIS 79 million in 2011 to NIS 155 million in 2012 due to the difference in the period of consolidation of Netvision's results. After elimination of Netvision's contribution, selling and marketing expenses decreased 22.1%.

The increase in selling and marketing expenses in 2011 compared with 2010, reflected primarily the impact of the regulatory changes, resulting in an increase in the number of customers' queries to our sales and service centers, which led to an increase in our sales and customer service force leading to an increase in payroll expenses, as well as an increase in sales commissions. The increase in sales commissions also resulted from an increase in the number of sales transactions in 2011 compared with 2010. Netvision's selling and marketing expenses (for the period from September 1 through December 31, 2011) in the amount of NIS 79 million, which were consolidated for the first time, also contributed to the increase in selling and marketing expenses. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in amortization expenses related to capitalized sales commissions resulted from ceasing the capitalization of these commissions due to the absence of the required accounting conditions for such capitalization, following the regulatory change in relation to the reduction of Early Termination Fees.

The decrease in general and administrative expenses in 2012 compared with 2011, resulted from efficiency measures we implemented, which led to a decrease in payroll expenses, employees recruitment expenses, data processing and other expenses. The decrease also resulted from a decrease in consulting expenses, mainly due to the increase in these expenses in 2011 related to the acquisition of Netvision. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in Netvision's contribution to general and administrative expenses from NIS 34 million in 2011 to NIS 71 million in 2012 due to the difference in the period of consolidation of Netvision's results. After elimination of Netvision's contribution, general and administrative expenses decreased 14.3%.

The increase in general and administrative expenses in 2011 compared with 2010, primarily resulted from Netvision's general and administrative expenses (for the period from September 1 through December 31, 2011) in the amount of NIS 34 million, which were consolidated for the first time, as well as from an increase in consulting expenses related to the merger of Netvision. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in bad debts and doubtful accounts expenses.

Table of Contents

Other income (expenses), net

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2011	2012
	(In NIS millions)		
Other income (expenses), net	(5)	(1)	4

Other income in 2012 consists mainly of gains from sale of shares in a subsidiary and in an associate of Netvision.

Other expenses in 2010 and 2011 consisted mainly of capital losses which resulted from deletion of certain equipment items.

Financing expenses, net

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2011	2012
	(In NIS millions)		
Financing expenses	(336)	(409)	(440)
Financing income	106	116	181
Financing expenses, net	(230)	(293)	(259)

Financing expenses, net, for 2012 decreased 11.6% compared with 2011. The decrease resulted from a decrease in Israeli Consumer Price Index (CPI) linkage expenses, associated with our debentures, due to decreased inflation rate in 2012, compared with 2011, an increase in interest income, associated with handsets sales, as well as an increase in gains from our investment in tradable debentures in 2012, compared with 2011. The decrease in financing expenses, net, also resulted from income from foreign currency exchange differences related to trade payables in 2012, which resulted mainly from appreciation of 2.3% of the NIS against the US dollar, compared to loss from foreign currency exchange differences in 2011, which resulted from depreciation of 7.7% of the NIS against the US dollar in that year. These effects were partially offset by an increase in interest expenses, associated with our debentures, in 2012, compared with 2011, due to the higher debt level following the issuance of additional debentures in March 2012. The decrease in financing expenses, net, was offset in part also by a decrease in deposit interest income, due to lower deposits balance and decreased interest rate in 2012 compared with 2011.

Financing expenses, net, for 2011 increased by 27.4% compared with 2010. The increase resulted mainly from increased interest expenses and Israeli Consumer Price Index (CPI) linkage expenses, associated with our debentures, in 2011, compared with 2010, due to the higher debt level following the issuance of additional debentures in 2011. The increase in financing expenses, net, also resulted from loss in 2011 from foreign currency exchange differences related to trade payables, which resulted from a depreciation of 7.7% of the NIS against the US dollar, compared to income from foreign currency exchange differences in 2010, which resulted from an appreciation of 6% of the NIS against the US dollar in that year. These increases were partially offset by an increase in interest income, associated with handsets sales, as well as an increase in deposit interest income in 2011 compared with 2010, due to higher deposits balance and increased interest rate.

Table of Contents

Interest and CPI linkage expenses associated with the principal amount of the debentures incurred during 2010, 2011 and 2012 were approximately NIS 310 million, NIS 377 million and NIS 414 million, respectively.

Income tax

	Year Ended December 31,			Change	
	2010	2011	2012	2011 vs. 2010	2012 vs. 2011
	(In NIS millions)				
Income tax	417	304	195	(27.1 %)	(35.9 %)

Income tax for 2012 decreased 35.9% compared with 2011, mainly due to a significant decrease in profit before income tax, attributed primarily to the adverse effect on our results resulting from the intensified competition in the cellular market. This decrease was partially offset by an increase in the corporate tax rate from 24% in 2011 to 25% in 2012.

Income tax for 2011 decreased 27.1% compared with 2010. The decrease in income tax mainly resulted from a decrease in income before income tax, as well as from the decreased corporate tax rate of 24% in 2011 compared with 25% in 2010. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in deferred tax liabilities and the recognition of a one-time tax expense of approximately NIS 33 million recorded in the fourth quarter of 2011, following an amendment to the tax ordinance, so that corporate tax rate will increase to 25% commencing January 1, 2012 (whereas corporate tax rate was supposed to gradually decrease from 24% in 2011 to 18% by 2016).

Net income

	Year Ended December 31,			Change	
	2010	2011	2012	2011 vs. 2010	2012 vs. 2011
	(In NIS millions)				
Net income	1,291	825	531	(36.1 %)	(35.6 %)

The decrease in net income in 2012 compared with 2011, was primarily due to a decrease of 8.7% in revenues. This decrease was partially offset by a decrease of 3.5% in operating expenses and a decrease of 11.6% in financing expenses, net, leading to a decrease of 35.7% in income before income tax.

The decrease in net income in 2011 compared with 2010, was primarily due to a decrease of 2.3% in revenues, along with an increase of 7.6% in operating expenses and an increase of 27.4% in financing expenses, net, which led to a decrease of 33.9 % in income before income tax. These decreases were partially offset by a decrease of 27.1% in income tax.

B. LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

General

Our liquidity requirements relate primarily to working capital requirements, debt service, capital expenditures for the expansion and enhancement of our networks and payment of dividends. We fund these requirements through cash flows from operation and issuance of public debentures.

Table of Contents

In October 2010, the Commissioner of Capital Markets, Insurance and Savings in the Ministry of Finance published a circular which in most parts became effective by January 2011, instructing institutional investors to follow certain procedures and requirements before investing in non-governmental debentures, including a requirement to verify that certain contractual provisions are included in the indentures of the invested debentures, and to establish a policy for investment in such debentures which will relate among other matters to repayment acceleration rights. These procedures and requirements may adversely affect our possibilities of raising debt from Israeli institutional investors as well as the terms and price of such debt raising and have already adversely affected the terms under which we raised debt in 2012. For additional details see "B. Liquidity and Capital Resources - Debt Service –Shelf Prospectus".

In May 2012, the rating of our debentures was downgraded (with a negative outlook) due to increased leverage and competitive pressures. In November 2012, the rating company reaffirmed that rating, based on the above reasons. This and any further downgrade in our rating may adversely affect the terms and price of our debt or additional debt raising, particularly through the issuance of debentures to institutional investors, which, given the limitation on the ability of Israeli banks to lend money to us pursuant to the "Guidelines for Sound Bank Administration" issued by the Israeli Supervisor of Banks (as we are a member of IDB's group of borrowers), may limit our ability to obtain additional financing to operate, develop and expand our business or to refinance existing debt.

We believe that our free cash flow together with our financial reserves will be sufficient to fund our anticipated cash needs for working capital, capital expenditures and debt service for at least the next 12 months. Our future capital requirements will depend on many factors, including level of revenues, the timing and extent of spending to support marketing and subscriber retention efforts, the expansion of sales and marketing activities and the timing of introductions of new products and enhancements to existing products.

In February 2006, our Board of Directors adopted a policy to distribute each year at least 75% of our annual net income, subject to compliance with applicable law, our license and contractual obligations and so long as the distribution would not be detrimental to our cash needs or to any plans approved by our Board of Directors. In March 2012, in connection with the raising of additional debt, we undertook limitations on dividend distributions by our company. See "Item 8. Financial Information – A. Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information – Dividend Policy" and "B. Liquidity and Capital Resources - Debt Service –Shelf Prospectus" and "B. Liquidity and Capital Resources - Debt Service –Shelf Prospectus". In respect of 2012, a dividend was declared for the first quarter only and our Board of Directors chose not to declare dividends for the second, third and fourth quarters given the intensified competition and substantial changes in pricing and in order to strengthen our balance sheet. It is possible that our Board of Directors' estimate of our cash needs will be incorrect, or that events could occur that could increase our cash needs beyond anticipated. If that occurs, we may not have sufficient cash to cover these needs as a result of prior dividend payments, and we would need to identify additional sources of financing, which could include equity or debt financing. We may not be able to obtain such financing on acceptable terms or at all.

Dividend payments

During 2012, we distributed cash dividends in the aggregate amount of NIS 391 million (\$105 million), including the dividend declared for the third and fourth quarters of

Table of Contents

2011 in the amount of NIS 189 million (\$51 million) and 72 million (\$19 million), respectively, based on net income. In respect of 2012, a dividend was declared for the first quarter only and our Board of Directors chose not to declare dividends for the second, third and fourth quarters given the intensified competition and substantial changes in pricing and in order to strengthen our balance sheet. During 2011, we distributed cash dividends in the aggregate amount of NIS 827 million (\$222 million), including the dividend declared for the fourth quarter of 2010 in the amount of NIS 303 million (\$81 million), based on net income. During 2010, we distributed cash dividends in the aggregate amount of NIS 1,327 million (\$355 million), including the dividend declared for the fourth quarter of 2009 in the amount of NIS 257 million (\$69 million), based on net income and existing retained earnings.

Debt service

Shelf Prospectus

In July 2011, we filed a shelf prospectus with the Israeli Securities Authority, or ISA, and the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, or TASE. The shelf prospectus allows us, from time to time, until July 2013, to offer and sell debt, equity, warrants and commercial paper in Israel, in one or more offerings, subject to a supplemental shelf offering report, in which we will describe the terms of the securities offered and the specific details of the offering. At this stage, no decision has been made as to the execution of any offering, nor as to its scope, terms and timing, if executed, and there is no certainty that such offering will be executed.

In March 2012, we amended the shelf prospectus and the indenture included in the shelf prospectus, or the Amendment, after having received the ISA's and TASE's approval, to include additional undertakings in regards to the issuance of certain new series, if issued by us, as follows:

- negative pledge, subject to certain exceptions;
- a covenant not to distribute more than 95% of the profits available for distribution according to the Israeli Companies law ("Profits"); provided that if our net leverage (defined as the ratio of net debt to EBITDA during a period of 12 consecutive months, excluding onetime influences) exceeds 3.5:1, we will not distribute more than 85% of our Profits and if our net leverage exceeds 4.0:1, we will not distribute more than 70% of our Profits;
- limitation of our ability to voluntarily redeem the debentures prior to their stated maturity date to a minimum amount of NIS 100 million of each series of debentures and an undertaking to pay the holders of such debentures an additional annual interest of 1% in the event of such early redemption;
 - a covenant to have the debentures rated by a rating agency (in as much as under our control);
- an obligation to pay additional interest of 0.25% for a two-notch downgrade in the debentures' rating and additional interest of 0.25% for each additional one-notch downgrade and up to a maximum addition of 1%, in comparison to the rating given to the debentures prior to their issuance;

Table of Contents

- a covenant not to issue additional debentures of the relevant series if the additional issuance by itself, will cause a certain rating downgrade.

We also agreed in the Amendment to the addition of the certain events to the list of events of default, including:

- cross default, excluding following an immediate repayment initiated in relation to a liability of NIS 150 million or less;
- failure of our main business to be cellular communications or loss of our cellular license for a period of over 60 days;
 - suspension of trading of the debentures on the TASE over a period of 45 days;
 - failure to comply with the above covenant regarding limitations on dividend distributions;
 - failure to have the debentures rated over a period of 60 days;
 - a petition or court order to withhold all legal proceedings against us or petition for creditors arrangement filed;
 - the sale of a major part of our assets or merger (with certain exclusions);
 - failure to publish financial reports when due;
 - a net leverage in excess of 5.0:1, or in excess of 4.5:1 during four consecutive quarters;
 - failure to comply with our negative pledge covenant; and
 - any other event causing or expected to cause a material adverse effect (which shall not include any event that shall or is likely to cause our net leverage to increase to a ratio of under 5.0:1) on our business and posing real threat of a substantial damage to the debenture holders' rights.

The Amendment includes also our undertaking to comply with certain reporting obligations under the Israeli securities law that relate to information to be provided to debenture holders (which have not previously applied to us pursuant to Israeli law as we are a dual company traded both in Israel and in the US).

Public debentures

In December 2005 and January 2006, we issued two series of debentures (Series A and Series B) to institutional and other investors in private placements. In May 2006, we issued additional debentures of these two series. The debentures are listed on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. As of December 31, 2012, Series A Debentures were fully repaid and Series B consists of approximately NIS 925 million (\$248 million) aggregate principal amount of debentures. The Series B Debentures bear interest at the rate of 5.3% per year, and are linked (principal and interest) to the Israeli CPI. The principal is payable in five annual payments commencing in January 2013, and the interest is payable annually commencing in January 2007.

Table of Contents

The Series B debentures are unsecured and do not restrict our ability to issue additional debentures of any class or distribute dividends in the future. The Series B debentures contain standard terms and obligations including restriction on our ability to create liens on our assets, other than fixed liens on assets provided in connection with financing the purchase of such assets.

In October 2007 we issued two new series of debentures (Series C and Series D) to the public in Israel. The debentures are listed for trading on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. In February 2008 we issued, in a private placement, additional debentures of these two Series. In April 2009 and March 2011 (under the 2009 Shelf Prospectus) and in August 2011 (under the above 2011 Shelf Prospectus), we issued to the public in Israel additional Series D debentures. As of December 31, 2012, these debentures consist, of approximately NIS 36 million (\$10 million) aggregate principal amount of Series C Debentures (after we repaid the first eight principal payments in March and September 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012, in the sum of approximately NIS 36 million (\$10 million) each) and approximately NIS 2,423 million (\$ 649million) aggregate principal amount of Series D Debentures.

The Series C principal is payable in nine equal semiannual payments on March 1 and September 1, for each of the years 2009 through 2012 (inclusive) and on March 1, 2013. The interest on Series C debentures is payable semiannually on March 1 and on September 1, for each of the years 2008 through 2012 (inclusive) and on March 1, 2013. The Series D principal is payable in five equal annual payments on July 1, for each of the years 2013 through 2017 (inclusive). The interest on Series D debentures is payable annually on July 1, for each of the years 2008 through 2017 (inclusive). Series C and D debentures bear an annual interest rate of 4.60% and 5.19%, respectively and are linked (principal and interest) to the Israeli CPI for August 2007.

The Series C and D debentures are unsecured and do not restrict our ability to issue additional debentures of any class or distribute dividends in the future. The Series C and D debentures contain standard terms and obligations.

In April 2009, we issued to the public in Israel a new Series E debentures. The debentures were issued in a public offering in Israel based on the 2009 shelf prospectus and were listed for trading on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. In March 2011 (under the 2009 Shelf Prospectus) and in August 2011 (under the above 2011 Shelf Prospectus), we issued to the public in Israel additional Series E debentures. As of December 31, 2011, these debentures consist, of approximately NIS 1,499 million (\$402 million) aggregate principal amount of Series E Debentures.

The Series E principal is payable in six equal annual payments on January 5, of each of the years 2012 through 2017 (inclusive). The interest on Series E debentures is payable annually on January 5, of each of the years 2010 through 2017 (inclusive). Series E debentures bear an interest rate of 6.25% per annum, without any linkage.

The Series E debentures are unsecured and do not restrict our ability to issue additional debentures of any class or distribute dividends in the future. The Series E debentures contain standard terms and obligations.

Table of Contents

In March 2012, we issued to the public in Israel two new series F and G debentures. The debentures were issued in a public offering in Israel based on the 2011 shelf prospectus and Amendment and were listed for trading on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. As of December 31, 2012, these debentures consist of approximately NIS 715 million (\$192 million) aggregate principal amount series F debentures and approximately NIS 285 million (\$76 million) aggregate principal amount series G debentures.

The series F principal is payable in four annual installments: one payment of 10% of the principal on January 5, 2017, and three equal annual installments of 30% of the principal, on January 5 of each of the years 2018 through 2020 (inclusive). The interest on Series F debentures is payable in semi-annual installments on January 5 and on July 5, of each calendar years commencing July 5, 2012 through January 5, 2020 (inclusive). Series F debentures bear an interest rate of 4.35% per annum, linked to the Israeli CPI for February 2012.

The series G principal is payable in three annual installments: one payment of 20% of the principal on January 5, 2017, second payment of 50% of the principal on January 5, 2018 and third and last payment of 30% of the principal on January 5, 2019. The interest on Series G debentures is payable in semi-annual installments on January 5 and on July 5 of each calendar year commencing July 5, 2012 through January 5, 2019 (inclusive). Series G debentures bear an interest rate of 6.74% per annum, without any linkage.

The Series F and G debentures are unsecured and contain in addition to standard terms and obligations, certain restrictions, as specified regarding the Amendment above.

Other credit facilities

As of December 31, 2011, we had no other credit facilities outstanding. As of December 31, 2012, Netvision used an amount of approximately NIS 15 million (\$4 million) of the credit lines provided to it by an Israeli bank at a fixed interest rate of 4.8% per annum, payable in semi annual principal and interest amounts in the years 2012 through 2013.

Pursuant to the provision of such credit lines, Netvision and 013 Netvision provided such banks with a floating charge on its property, assets and rights, fixed charges on certain bank deposits and with certain undertakings including: negative pledge (subject to certain exceptions); any change of control, reorganization, merger, change in capital structure and pledge requiring the prior consent of such banks; any owners' loans shall be subordinated to the loans provided by such banks; certain limitations on the transfer of assets out of the ordinary course of business; and 013 Netvision shall not acquire control or main assets of another business if such acquisition shall cause a default of the financial covenants it provided.

Financial covenants: 013 Netvision's shareholders equity shall not fall below 30% of 013 Netvision's total balance sheet amount, Netvision's net leverage ratio of Netvision and 013 Netvision shall not exceed 2.5:1, and Netvision's shareholders equity shall not fall below 35% of Netvision's total balance sheet amount. As of December 31, 2012 Netvision fulfills all such undertakings and covenants.

Capital expenditures

Our accrual capital expenditure in 2010, 2011 and 2012 amounted to NIS 735 million, NIS 520 million and NIS 537 million, respectively. Accrual capital expenditure is defined as

Table of Contents

investment in fixed assets and certain intangible assets, such as spectrum licenses, rights of use of communications lines, UMTS networks' enhancement and expansion and development of new products and services, during a given period. The amount of capital expenditure for 2010 includes the payment of NIS 108 million pursuant to the acquisition of assets and operations of Dynamica, one of our major dealers. The amount of capital expenditure for 2011 excludes the acquisition of Netvision in the amount of NIS 1,458 million (net of cash acquired in the amount of NIS 120 million). For the periods under review, a key focus of our capital investment has been the enhancement and expansion of our networks and transmission infrastructure.

Cash flows from operating activities

Cash flows from operating activities increased by 23.2% in 2012 to NIS 1,641 million from NIS 1,332 million in 2011. The increase resulted mainly from the significant decrease in sales of cellular handsets, which led to a decrease in the immediate payment to vendors for handset purchases, as opposed to spreading the consideration when these handsets are sold to our subscribers (usually in installments over a period of 36 months). The increase in cash flows from operating activities also resulted from an increase in Netvision's contribution to these cash flows due to the difference in the period of consolidation of Netvision's results. The increase in cash flows from operating activities was partially offset by a decrease in proceeds from customers due to the decrease in service revenues resulted from the ongoing erosion in the price of cellular services due to the intensified competition in the cellular market.

Cash flows from operating activities decreased by 44% in 2011 to NIS 1,332 million from NIS 2,380 million in 2010. The decrease resulted mainly from the significant increase in sales of cellular handsets, which led to an increase in the immediate payment to vendors for handset purchases, as opposed to spreading the consideration when these handsets are sold to our subscribers (usually in installments over a period of 36 months). The decrease in service revenues, resulted from the regulatory changes, also contributed to the decrease in cash flows from operating activities.

Cash flows from investing activities

The net cash flows from operating activities is the main capital resource for our investment activities. In 2010, 2011 and 2012, our net cash used in investing activities amounted to NIS 889 million, NIS 1,656 million and NIS 708 million, respectively. The payments were primarily for the improvement and expansion of the technological networks and information systems infrastructures. The decrease in 2012 compared with 2011 resulted mainly from the net payment of NIS 1,458 million in 2011 pursuant to the acquisition of Netvision. This decrease was partially offset by additional investments in tradable debentures in 2012 compared with sales of part of our current investments in tradable debentures in 2011, as well as by an increase in acquisition of property, plant and equipment. The increase in 2011 compared with 2010 resulted from the net payment of NIS 1,458 million pursuant to the acquisition of Netvision. This increase was partially offset by proceeds from sales of part of our current investments in tradable debentures in 2011, which were purchased in previous years, as well as from a decrease in acquisition of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets.

Table of Contents

Cash flows from financing activities

In 2012, the net cash used in financing activities amounted to NIS 439 million compared with net cash from financing activities in the amount of NIS 715 million in 2011. This change is the result of a decrease in net proceeds from issuance of debentures from NIS 2,165 million in 2011 to NIS 992 million in 2012, an increase in repayment of debentures, as well as an increase in interest paid due to higher debt level in 2012 as compared with 2011. These effects were partially offset by a decrease in dividends paid in 2012 compared to 2011.

In 2011, the net cash from financing activities amounted to NIS 715 million compared with net cash used in the amount of NIS 1,861 million in 2010. This change was primarily due to net proceeds of NIS 2,165 million from issuance of debentures in 2011 while in 2010 there was no such issuance. A decrease in the amount of cash dividend distributed in 2011 compared with 2010 also contributed to this change.

During 2010, 2011 and 2012, the average outstanding amount of long-term liabilities (long-term loans and debentures) was NIS 4.3 billion, NIS 5 billion and NIS 6.4 billion, respectively.

Working capital

Our working capital as of December 31, 2012 was NIS 1,232 million, compared with NIS 679 million as of December 31, 2011. The increase in working capital was primarily due to an increase in cash and cash-equivalents and current investments, as well as a decrease in trade payables and in the balance of dividends to be paid. These effects were partially offset by an increase in current maturities of our debentures.

Our working capital as of December 31, 2011 was NIS 679 million, compared with NIS 924 million as of December 31, 2010. The decrease in working capital was primarily due to an increase in current maturities of our debentures, trade payables and other current liabilities, which was partially offset by an increase in cash and cash-equivalents, trade receivables and inventory.

Trade receivables

Trade receivables consist of outstanding amounts due from customers, mainly for cellular, ISP and landline telephony services and handsets and accessories, net of the allowance for doubtful accounts. Most of our handset sales are made on an installment basis (generally, 36 monthly payments). Installments due in the twelve months following the balance sheet date are included in current trade receivables; the remaining installments are included in long-term receivables. As of December 31, 2012, net current trade receivables amounted to NIS 1,856 million compared with NIS 1,859 million as at December 31, 2011 and NIS 1,478 million as at December 31, 2010. Net long-term trade receivables as of December 31, 2012 amounted to NIS 888 million compared with NIS 980 million as at December 31, 2011 and NIS 523 million as at December 31, 2010. The decrease in trade receivables (current and long-term) in 2012 compared with 2011 was mainly due to the decrease in revenues as a result of the intensified competition in the cellular market. The increase in trade receivables in 2011 compared with 2010 was due to the significant increase in cellular handsets sales, as well as to Netvision's trade receivables, which were consolidated for the first time. The current maturity of long-term receivables as of December 31, 2012 was NIS 1,037 million, compared with NIS 937 million as of December 31, 2011.

Table of Contents

C. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, PATENTS AND LICENSES, ETC.

Not applicable.

D. TREND INFORMATION

Trend information is included throughout the other sections of this Item 5.

E. OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

There are no off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a current or future material effect on our financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources.

F. TABULAR DISCLOSURE OF CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

Set forth below is a description of our contractual cash obligations, in millions of NIS, as of December 31, 2012.

	Total	2013	2014- 2015	2016-2017	2018 and Beyond
Long-term debt obligations (including interest)(1)	7,661	1,478	2,684	2,562	937
Operating lease obligations	1,153	258	378	261	256
Purchase obligations	321	216	91	14	-
Total	9,135	1,952	3,153	2,837	1,193

(1) Interest does not include any increase in interest that would be required based on increases in the Israeli CPI.

Application of Critical Accounting Policies and Use of Estimates

The preparation of our financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reflected in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. We base our estimates upon past experience, where applicable, various factors, external sources and on other assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions, and could have a material impact on our reported results.

In many cases, the accounting treatment of a particular transaction, event or activity is specifically dictated by accounting principles and does not require management's judgment in its application, while in other cases, management's judgment is required in the selection of the most appropriate alternative among the available accounting principles, that allow different accounting treatment for similar transactions.

We believe that the accounting policies discussed below are critical to our financial results and to the understanding of our past and future performance, as these policies relate to the more significant areas involving management's estimates and assumptions. We consider an accounting estimate to be critical if: (1) it requires us to make assumptions because information was not available at the time or it included matters that were highly uncertain at the time we were making our estimate and (2) changes in the estimate or different estimates that we could have selected may have had a material impact on our financial condition or results of operations.

Table of Contents

Revenue recognition

Nature of critical estimate items

As described in Note 3.K to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this annual report, revenues derived from usage of our networks, including airtime, internet services (ISP), international call services, fixed local calls, interconnect, content and value added services and roaming revenues are recognized when the services are provided, in proportion to the stage of completion of the transaction, and all other revenue recognition criteria are met. The sale of a handset is generally adjacent to the sale of services. Usually, the sale of a handset to the customer is executed with no contractual obligation of the customer to purchase services from us in a minimal amount for a predefined period. As a result, we refer to the sale transaction as a separate transaction and recognize revenue from the sale of the handset upon delivery of the handset to the customer. In case the customer is obligated towards the company to purchase services in a minimal amount for a predefined period, the contract is characterized as a multiple element contract and thus, revenue from sale of handset is recorded in an amount not higher than the fair value of the said handset, which is not contingent upon delivery of additional components (such as services) and is recognized upon delivery of the handset to the customer and when the criteria for revenue recognition are met. Revenues from services are recognized and recorded when the services are provided.

Assumptions / approach used

We determine the fair value of the individual elements based on prices at which the deliverable is regularly sold on a stand alone basis, after considering volume discounts where appropriate. The accounting estimates used in the results of operations related to the recognition of revenue require us to make assumptions about possible future billing adjustments arising from disputes with subscribers and discounts not taken into consideration at the time of billing.

Effect if different assumptions used

Management believes that the determination of fair value of the individual elements (relevant to revenue recognition) for each reporting period represent its best estimate, but the actual fair value can differ from the estimate selected. The impact of variances in actual performance versus the amounts recorded could have an adverse effect on the accounts receivable reported on the balance sheet and the results reported in the statements of operations, and could be material to our financial condition.

Long-lived assets – depreciation

Nature of critical estimate items

The communications industry is capital intensive. The depreciation of operating assets constitutes a significant operating cost for us. We have substantial investments in tangible long-lived assets, primarily our communications networks.

Assumptions / approach used

We depreciate our property, plant and equipment using the straight-line method. Separate individual significant components are depreciated over their individual estimated

Table of Contents

useful lives. We periodically review changes in our technology and industry conditions to determine adjustments to estimated remaining useful lives and depreciation rates.

Effect if different assumptions used

Changes in technology or changes in our intended use of these assets can cause the estimated period of use or the value of these assets to change. Actual economic lives may differ from estimated useful lives. Periodic reviews could result in a change in our assets' depreciable lives, and therefore, in our depreciation expense in future periods.

Impairment of long-lived assets

Nature of critical estimate items

At each reporting date, we review finite-lived long-lived assets, principally consisting of property, plant and equipment, spectrum licenses and intangible assets for impairment based on the requirements of International Accounting Standard No. 36, or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their carrying values may not be recoverable through the present value of anticipated cash flows from the continued use of the asset, including those expected at the time of its future retirement and disposal. Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, we group together all of the assets that cannot be tested individually into the smallest group of assets that generates cash inflows from continuing use that are largely independent of the cash inflows of other assets or groups of assets (the "cash-generating unit"), and estimate the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The recoverable amount is the higher of value in use and fair value less cost to sell. Value in use is determined by discounting of expected future cash flows method, using a pre-tax discount rate. An impairment loss is recognized if the carrying amount of an asset or cash-generating unit exceeds its estimated recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognized in profit or loss.

Once a year and for the same date, or more frequently if there are indications of impairment, we estimate the recoverable amount of each cash-generating unit that contains goodwill, or intangible assets that have indefinite useful lives. Cash-generating units to which goodwill has been allocated are aggregated so that the level at which impairment testing is performed reflects the lowest level at which goodwill is monitored for internal reporting purposes. We monitor goodwill at operating segments level. As regards cash-generating units that include goodwill, an impairment loss is recognized when the carrying amount of the cash-generating unit, after adjustment for goodwill, exceeds its recoverable amount.

Assumptions / approach used

In analyzing finite-lived long-lived assets for potential impairment, significant assumptions that are used in determining the discounted cash flows of the asset group include:

- cash flows attributed to the asset group;
- future cash flows for the asset group, including estimates of residual values, which incorporate our views of growth rates for the related business and anticipated future economic conditions; and
- period of time over which the assets will be held and used.

Table of Contents

Effect if different assumptions used

The use of different estimates and assumptions within our discounted cash flow models (e.g., growth rates, future economic conditions, estimates of residual values) could result in discounted cash flows that are lower than the current carrying value of an asset group, thereby requiring the need to reduce the carrying value to the discounted cash flow amount.

The use of different discount rates when determining the fair value of the asset group could result in different fair values, and impact any related impairment charges.

Accounts receivable - bad debt and allowance for doubtful accounts

Nature of critical estimate items

We maintain an allowance for doubtful accounts to reflect estimated losses resulting from impairment of accounts receivables.

Assumptions / approach used

We regularly evaluate the adequacy of our allowance for doubtful accounts by taking into account variables such as past experience, age of the receivable balance and current economic conditions of the party owing the receivable balance. If the financial conditions of certain customers were to deteriorate, resulting in impairment in their ability to make payments, additional allowance for doubtful accounts may be required.

Effect if different assumptions used

We believe that our allowance for doubtful accounts is adequate to cover estimated losses in customer accounts receivable balances under current conditions. However, changes to the allowance for doubtful accounts may be necessary in the event that the financial condition of our customers improves or deteriorates.

Provisions for contingent liabilities

Provisions in general are highly judgmental, especially in cases of legal disputes. We assess the probability of an adverse event as a result of a past event and if the probability is evaluated to be more likely than not and the amount of the obligation can be estimated reliably, we fully provide for the total amount of the estimated contingent liability. We continually evaluate our pending provisions to determine if additional accruals are required. It is often difficult to accurately estimate the ultimate outcome of a contingent liability. Different variables can affect the timing and amount we provide for certain contingent liabilities. Our provisions are therefore subject to estimates made by us having taken into consideration the opinion of our legal counsel, which are subject to changes as the status of legal and commercial disputes changes over time. Adverse revision in our estimates of the potential liability could materially impact our financial condition, results of operations or liquidity.

New Accounting Standards

IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement ("the Standard")

Table of Contents

The Standard replaces the fair value measurement guidance that currently appears in various IFRSs. For this purpose, it defines fair value and provides measurement and disclosure guidance. Nevertheless, the Standard does not introduce new fair value measurement requirements, but explains how to measure fair value when such measurement is required by other IFRSs. The Standard is applied when fair value measurements or disclosures are required or permitted by other IFRSs. The Standard is applicable prospectively for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013. The disclosure requirements of the Standard need not be applied in comparative information for periods before initial application. In our opinion, application of the Standard will not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

ITEM 6. DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES

A. DIRECTORS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth information regarding our directors, executive officers and other key employees as of December 31, 2012:

Name	Age	Position
Ami Erel (2), (3)	65	Chairman of the Board
Nochi Dankner (3)	58	Director
Raanan Cohen (2), (4)	45	Director
Rafi Bisker (4)	61	Director
Shlomo Waxe (1), (2), (4)	67	Independent Director
Haim Gavrieli	42	Director
Ari Bronshtein (2)	43	Director
Edith Lusky (2), (5)	62	Director
Ephraim Kunda (1), (2)	60	Independent Director
Joseph Barnea (1), (2), (3), (4), (5)	77	Independent / External Director
Ronit Baytel (1), (5)	45	Independent / External Director
Nir Sztern	41	President and Chief Executive Officer
Yaacov Heen	43	Chief Financial Officer
Yoni Sabag	40	Vice President of Marketing
Eliezer (Lipa) Ogman	59	Chief Technology Officer
Itamar Bartov	50	Vice President of Executive and Regulatory Affairs
Keren Shtevy	40	Vice President of Business Customers (a)
Sharon Amit	46	Vice President of Human Resources
Amos Maor	49	Vice President of Sales and Service
Jack Oster	39	Vice President of Information Technology (b)
Liat Menahemi-Stadler	46	Vice President of Legal Affairs and Corporate Secretary
Teimurz Romashvily	34	Vice President of Pre Paid Activity
Liat Straus	34	Netvision Vice President of Sales and Service
Gil Ben-Itzhak	47	Controller

(a) Ms. Keren Shtevy was appointed to office as of March 1, 2012.

(b) Mr. Jack Oster was appointed to office as of November 2012.

(1) Member of our Audit Committee.

(2) Member of our Analysis Committee.

- (3) Member of our Option Committee.
- (4) Member of our Security Committee.
- (5) Member of our compensation Committee.

Ami Erel has served as Chairman of our Board of Directors since 2005. Mr. Erel has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Discount Investment Corporation Ltd. since 2001. From March to December 2007, Mr. Erel also served as the Chief Executive

Table of Contents

Officer of Netvision Ltd., where he served prior to March 2007 and from 2008 to 2011, as Chairman of the board of directors. From 1999 to 2001, he served as President of Elron Electronic Industries Ltd., where he continues to serve as a member of the Board of Directors and also served, until January 2007, as its Chairman of the board of directors. From 1997 to 1999, he served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Bezeq – The Israeli Telecommunications Corporation Ltd. Mr. Erel also serves as deputy Chairman of the board of directors of Makhteshim-Agan Industries Ltd. (where he served from 2006 and as a director and from January 2011 through October 2011 as Chairman of the board of directors). Mr. Erel has served as the chairman of the executive committee of the Manufacturers Association of Israel from 2005 to 2009 and from 2009 to 2011 he served as the chairman of the Israel Export & International Cooperation Institute. Mr. Erel holds a B.Sc. in electrical engineering from the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology.

Nochi Dankner has served as a member of our Board of Directors since 2005. Mr. Dankner currently serves as Chairman of the boards of directors of IDB Holding Corporation Ltd. (of which he also served as Chief Executive Officer from December 2003 until August 2009), IDB Development Corporation Ltd., Discount Investment Corporation Ltd., Ganden Holdings Ltd. and various private companies, and as a member of the boards of directors of Clal Insurance Enterprises Holdings Ltd., Clal Insurance Company Ltd., Shufersal Ltd., Property and Building Corporation Ltd., Koor Industries Ltd., Makhteshim-Agan Industries Ltd. and various private companies. Mr. Dankner also serves as the Chairman of the IDB fund “For the Community” (a non-profit organization), as a member of “Matan-Your Way to Give” (a non-profit organization), as a member of the management committee of the Association of Friends of the Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, and as a member of the board of trustees of Tel Aviv University, Buchmann Faculty of Law - Tel Aviv University and Bar-Ilan University. Mr. Dankner holds an L.L.B. and a B.A. in political science, both from Tel Aviv University.

Raanan Cohen has served as a member of our Board of Directors since 2000. Mr. Cohen also has served as Chief Executive Officer of Koor Industries Ltd. since July 2006. From 2004 to 2006, he also served as Chief Executive Officer of Scailex Corporation Ltd. Since 2001 he has served as Vice President of Discount Investment Corporation Ltd., having previously served, from 1999 to 2001, as executive assistant to the chief executive officer of Discount Investment Corporation Ltd. From 1997 to 1999, he was an associate at McKinsey & Company Inc., London. Mr. Cohen also serves as a member of the boards of directors of Makhteshim-Agan Industries Ltd. and various private companies. Mr. Cohen is a member of the Israeli Bar Association and holds an L.L.B. and a B.A. in economics from Tel Aviv University and an M.B.A. in management from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of management of Northwestern University.

Rafi Bisker has served as a member of our Board of Directors since 2006. Mr. Bisker currently serves as co-Chairman of the board of directors of Shufersal Ltd. and as the Chairman of the board of directors of Property and Building Corporation Ltd., Bayside Land Corporation Ltd. and various private companies. From 2000 to 2005, he served as Chief Executive Officer of Ganden Holdings Ltd. and Ganden Real Estate Ltd. From 1989 to 1999, he served as Chief Executive Officer of Dankner Investments Ltd. Mr. Bisker also serves as a member of the boards of directors of IDB Holding Corporation Ltd., IDB Development Corporation Ltd., Discount Investment Corporation Ltd., Koor Industries Ltd., Ganden Holdings Ltd., ISPRO The Israel Properties Rental Corporation Ltd., Mehadrin Ltd., and

Table of Contents

various private companies. Mr. Bisker holds a B.Sc. in civil engineering from the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology.

Shlomo Waxe has served as a member of our Board of Directors since 2006. Mr. Waxe has served as Director General of the Israel Association of Electronics and Software Industries since 2006. From 2002 to 2005, he worked in the field of communications management and consultancy. From 1999 to 2001, he served as Chief Executive Officer of Zeevi Communications Ltd. From 1997 to 1999, he served as a consultant to cellular communications projects in Sao Paulo, Brazil and in Northeast Brazil. From 1993 to 1997, he served as the Director General of Israel's Ministry of Communications. From 1990 to 1993, he served as commanding officer of the signal, electronics and computer corps of the Israel Defense Forces and he is a retired brigadier general. Mr. Waxe also serves as a member of the boards of directors of C. Mer Industries Ltd. and until 2009, served as a board member of Shrem, Fudim – Technologies Ltd. and until May 2012, served as a board member of Tambour Ltd. Mr. Waxe holds a B.A. in political science from the University of Haifa.

Haim Gavrieli has served as a member of our Board of Directors since 2008. Mr. Gavrieli has served as the Chief Executive Officer of IDB Holding Corporation Ltd. since 2009 and also as Chief Executive Officer of IDB Development Corporation Ltd. since 2011, where he served as Executive Vice President from 2006 to 2011. He also serves as Chairman of the board of directors of Modiin Energy Management (1992) Ltd., Deputy Chairman of the board of directors of Shufersal Ltd., Co-Chairman of the board of directors of IDB Tourism (2009) Ltd. and a member of the boards of directors of Discount Investment Corporation Ltd., Koor Industries Ltd., other IDB group companies and various private companies. Mr. Gavrieli holds a B.A. in political science and sociology from the University of Haifa and an M.A. in management from the University of Haifa.

Ari Bronshtein has served as a member of our Board of Directors since 2008. Mr. Bronshtein has served as Vice-President of DIC since January 2006. Since July 2010, he also has served as a Chief Executive Officer, and from May 2009 to June 2010 he served as co-Chief Executive Officer of Elron Electronic Industries Ltd. Mr. Bronstein also serves as a member of the boards of directors of Modiin Energy Management (1992) Ltd., Given Imaging Ltd. and various private companies. From 2004 to 2005, he served as Vice President and head of the Economics and Business Development division, and from 2000 to 2003, as Director of Finance and Investments, at Bezeq – The Israeli Telecommunications Corporation Ltd. Mr. Bronshtein holds a B.A. in finance and management and M.Sc. degree in finance and accounting, both from Tel Aviv University.

Edith Lusky has served as a member of our Board of Directors since March 2011. Ms. Lusky serves as an external director at Israel Discount Bank Ltd. since 2009. From 2004 to 2008 Ms. Lusky served as senior vice president of retail banking and risk management of Union Bank of Israel Ltd. and from 2001 to 2004 she served as chief executive officer of Mishcan - Bank Poalim for Mortgages Ltd. Ms. Lusky holds a B.A. in Economics and Statistics and an M.Sc in Economics, both from Tel Aviv University.

Ephraim Kunda has served as a member of our Board of Directors since 2010. Mr. Kunda is an Israeli businessman and is the owner and managing director of a private consulting company that provides economic consultancy and business mediation services. From 2007 to 2010, Mr. Kunda has served as the Chairman of the board of directors and since 2010 as a member of the board of directors of Ravad Ltd., a public real estate investment company. From 2003 to 2007, Mr. Kunda served as an external director of

Table of Contents

Property and Building Corporation Ltd., a public real estate company that is a member of the IDB group. Mr. Kunda holds a B.A. in Economics from Tel Aviv University.

Joseph Barnea has served as a member of our Board of Directors since 2007. Mr. Barnea is a retired businessman. From October 2012, Mr. Barnea served as an external director of Imagesat International Ltd. He served as the Chief Executive Officer of Oxygen & Argon Works Ltd. from 1987 to 2005 and continued to serve as a member of its management until 2006. From 1985 to 1987, he served as the Chief Executive Officer of Telkoo Ltd. From 1980 to 1985, he served as a Vice President of Elscint Medical Imaging Ltd. Mr. Barnea is a member of the executive committee of the Israeli Industrialists Association and until 2007 he served as the Chairman of its Chemistry and Environment Association. From 2004 to 2009 Mr. Barnea served as a member of the board of the Israeli Export & International Cooperation Institute, from 2005 he serves as a member of the standard committee of the Israeli Standards Institute and prior to that, as a member of its board. From 2002 to 2004 he served first as President and then as Chairman of the International Oxygen Manufacturers Association (IOMA) USA. He served as Deputy Commander of the signal, electronics and computer corps of the Israeli Defense Forces. Mr. Barnea holds a B.Sc. in electrical engineering from the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology and an M.Sc. in electrical engineering from Columbia University, New York, USA.

Ronit Baytel has served as a member of our Board of Directors since 2007. Ms. Baytel is a director in the finance department of Ormat Technologies, Inc., a company listed on the NYSE, in charge of SOX internal controls in the preparation of financial statements and tax and special projects. From 1998 to 2005 she served as senior manager at Kesselman & Kesselman, a certified public accountants firm in Israel, which is a member of the international PriceWaterhouseCoopers Accountants firm. Ms. Baytel is a certified public accountant and holds a B.A. in economics and accountancy from Tel Aviv University and an M.B.A. from the Hebrew University.

Nir Sztern has served as our Chief Executive Officer since January 2012. Mr. Sztern served as the chief executive officer of Netvision, from 2010 to 2011. From 2008 to 2010 he served as deputy CEO of Pelephone, and from 2002 to 2008 as Pelephone's vice president of marketing. From 2001 to 2002 he served as vice president of marketing and sales of Barak 013 Ltd. or Barak, a long distance operator (which was later merged into Netvision) and from 1999-2001 as head of Barak's marketing department. From 1994 to 1999 Mr. Sztern served as head of our private sector marketing department. Mr. Sztern holds a B.A. in economics and management from the Tel Aviv University and an M.B.A. in business administration, from the Israeli branch of Manchester University.

Yaacov Heen has served as our Chief Financial Officer since 2009. Mr. Heen served as head of our economic department since 2006, responsible for our budget, financial analysis, cost accounting and control over our performance. From 2002 to 2006 he served as head of our pricing and business research department. Mr. Heen is a member of the steering committee of the Israeli CFO (Chief Financial Officers) Forum. Mr. Heen holds a B.A. in economics and business administration and an M.B.A. in business administration, both from the Bar-Ilan University.

Yoni Sabag has served as our Vice President of Marketing since April 2011. Mr. Sabag has served as head of our private sector marketing department, in charge of the private and small business sectors from 2006 to March 2011. From 2003 to 2006, he served as a

Table of Contents

director of marketing for the private sector. Mr Sabag has been a member of our marketing department since 2000.

Eliezer (Lipa) Ogman has served as our Chief Technology Officer since 2000. From 1997 to 2000, Mr. Ogman served as our Vice President of Engineering and Network Operation, and from 1994 to 1997 he served as manager of our network design department. Prior to joining us, he served in the signal, electronics and computer corps of the Israel Defense Forces, reaching the rank of lieutenant colonel. Mr. Ogman holds a B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering from the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, an M.B.A. in business administration and an M.Sc. in electrical engineering from Tel Aviv University.

Itamar Bartov has served as our Vice President of Executive and Regulatory Affairs since 2005. From 2004 to 2005, Mr. Bartov served as Vice President of Customer Services of El Al Israel Airlines Ltd., and from 2002 to 2004 he served as El Al's Corporate Secretary. From 2000 to 2002, he served as a Vice President of Business Development in Overseas Commerce and from 1996 to 2000 he served as a Vice President of Planning and Control in the Israel Postal Authority's. From 1993 to 1996, he served as senior advisor to the Minister of Communications. Mr. Bartov holds an L.L.B. from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Keren Shtevy has served as our Vice President of Business Customers since March 1, 2012. Ms. Shtevy served as Netvision's vice president of private customers from 2004 to 2011 and from 2011 as general vice president. From 1998 to 2004 she served at various positions in Netvision, from 1999 in various management positions, in charge of sales and customer service for private customers. Ms. Shtevy holds a B.A. in economics and communications from the University of Haifa.

Ms. Sharon Amit has served as our Vice President of Human Resources since November 2011. Ms. Amit has served as Netvision's VP of Human Resources from 2009 to November 2011. She served as VP of Human Resources of Tikshoov Call Center from 2006 to 2009, of Bynat Computer Communications from 2002 to 2006 and of ADC Israel from 1996 to 2002. Ms. Amit holds a B.A. in English literature and East Asia science, from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and an M.A. in labor studies from the Tel Aviv University.

Amos Maor has served as our Vice President of Sales and Service as of February 1, 2012. Mr. Maor has served as our Vice President of Operations and Supply Chain from 2004 to January 2011. From 2002 to 2004, Mr. Maor served as manager of Supply Chain of Elite Industries Ltd., and from 2000 to 2002, he served as manager of Elite's sales division headquarters. Mr. Maor holds a B.Sc. in industry and management engineering from the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology.

Jack Oster has served as our Vice President of Information Technology as of November 2012. Mr. Oster served as senior director of global delivery centers and global shared services centers as part of global IT management team of Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd from 2007 to November 2012. From 2005 – 2007 Mr. Oster served as Vice President of Business Applications solutions of Yael Software Ltd. From 2000 – 2005 Mr. Oster served as Senior Manager as part of the management consulting group of KPMG Consulting. Mr. Oster holds a B.Sc. in industrial engineering from Tel-Aviv University and graduated the Executive MBA program from Kellogg-Recanati.

Liat Menahemi Stadler has served as our Vice President of Legal Affairs and Corporate Secretary since 2006. From 2000 to 2006, Ms. Menahemi Stadler served as head of

Table of Contents

the technology and general purchasing division of our legal department. She has been a member of our legal department since 1998. Ms. Menahemi Stadler holds an LL.B. and a B.A. in English and French language and literature, both from the University of Haifa and is a member of both the Israeli and the New York bar associations.

Teimurz Romashvily has served as our Vice President of Pre Paid Activity since October 2011. Mr. Romashvily reports to the Company's VP Sales and Service. Mr. Romashvily has served as Netvision's head of pre-paid and international activity from 2007 to October 2011. From 2005 to 2007 he served as head of pre-paid activity in Barak and prior to that served in a variety of positions in Barak. Mr. Romashvily holds a B.A. in economics and management from the Economics Academy in Kiev, Ukraine.

Liat Straus has served as Netvision Vice President of Sales and Services as of 2011. From 2010 to 2011, Ms. Straus served as Netvision's head of customer service department. From 2006 to 2010, Ms. Straus served at various management positions, in charge of sales and customer retention division in Tikshoov Contact Center (placed with Barak – an ILD later merged into Netvision).

Gil Ben-Itzhak has served as our Controller since 2006. From 2003 to 2006, Mr. Ben-Itzhak served as Chief Financial Officer of Paul Winston-Eurostar LLC in New York. From 2002 to 2003, he served as Chief Financial Officer of Elron Telesoft Ltd. and from 1996 to 2002, he served as Controller of Elbit Ltd. Mr. Ben-Itzhak is a certified public accountant and holds a B.A. in accounting and economics from the University of Haifa.

B. COMPENSATION

Executive Officer and Director Compensation

The aggregate direct compensation we paid to all our executive officers and directors as a group (31 persons) for 2012 was approximately NIS 23.7 million, of which approximately NIS 3 million was set aside or accrued to provide for pension, retirement, severance or similar benefits. These amounts do not include expenses we incurred for other payments, including dues for professional and business associations, business travel and other expenses and benefits commonly reimbursed or paid by companies in Israel. In addition, in 2012 we recorded the sum of approximately NIS 4.6 million, as a compensation cost related to the options granted to all our executive officers under our share incentive plan. See “6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees - E. Share Ownership – 2006 Share Incentive Plan”. We pay our executive officers an annual bonus based on our overall performance and individual performance, subject to the discretion of our board of directors. For 2012, our board of directors resolved to pay our executive officers (excluding our CEO) an annual bonus in an aggregate sum of approximately NIS 3.1 million, and approximately NIS 1.35 million to Mr. Sztern, our CEO (as per his employment agreement described below).

We pay no cash compensation to our directors who are affiliated with DIC for their services as directors, but we pay DIC NIS 2.0 million per year for management services, adjusted to changes in the Israeli Consumer Price Index for June 2006. In 2012 this payment amounted to approximately NIS 2.3 million. In February 2010, our Board of Directors resolved that each of our external directors be paid the maximum amount of statutory compensation to an external director of a dual-listed company allowed by the applicable law and regulations, which is in the amount of NIS 115,400 per year and NIS 3,470 per meeting which such external director attends (including meetings of committees of the Board of

Table of Contents

Directors), adjusted for changes in the Israeli Consumer Price Index for December 2007. In 2012, after giving effect to the CPI adjustments, these amounts equaled approximately NIS 132,500 (approximately \$35,500) per year and approximately NIS----- 4,000 (approximately \$1,070), per meeting. Until our annual shareholders meeting, held in July 2011, we paid Shlomo Waxe, one of our independent directors, a monthly director’s fee of \$3,000, plus Israeli value-added tax. In our annual shareholders meeting held in July 2011, it was resolved that Shlomo Waxe (effective from the date of the such meeting), Ephraim Kunda and Edith Lusky (both effective retroactively from the date of their respective appointment to the board of directors) would be compensated at the same level as a statutory external director of a dual listed company, as described in the preceding paragraph.

Employment Agreement of Nir Sztern

Mr. Nir Sztern, our Chief Executive Officer as of January 1, 2012, is entitled to a gross monthly salary of NIS 120,000 linked to Israeli CPI. He is also entitled to a company car and the use of a cellular phone. Mr. Sztern is entitled to an annual bonus equal to nine months salary which shall increase or decrease in proportion to our annual profits, with a minimum of six months salary and a maximum of 15 months salary bonus, linked to Israeli CPI, in respect of which no social benefits are accrued. Mr. Sztern's annual bonus for 2012 amounts to NIS 1.35 million. Mr. Sztern is also entitled to participate in our share option plan. Mr. Sztern’s agreement contains provisions for vacation days, sick leave, managers’ insurance and an education fund. The aggregate monthly cost to us of Mr. Sztern’s employment in 2012 amounted to approximately NIS 169,000 (approximately \$45,200), not including the annual bonus. The agreement is for an unspecified period of time and can be terminated by either party with advance notice of three months. Mr. Sztern will continue to receive his salary and benefits for a period of three months after termination by either party, unless we terminate the agreement for cause.

C. BOARD PRACTICES

Corporate Governance Practices

We are incorporated in Israel and therefore are subject to various corporate governance practices under the Israeli Companies Law, 1999, or the Companies Law, relating to such matters as external directors, the audit committee, the compensation committee and the internal auditor. These matters are in addition to the requirements of the New York Stock Exchange and other relevant provisions of U.S. securities laws. Under the New York Stock Exchange rules, a foreign private issuer may generally follow its home country rules of corporate governance in lieu of the comparable New York Stock Exchange requirements, except for certain matters such as composition and responsibilities of the audit committee and the independence of its members. We follow the Companies Law, the relevant provisions of which are summarized in this annual report, and comply with the New York Stock Exchange requirement to solicit proxies from our shareholders in respect of each meeting of shareholders.

For a summary of the significant differences between our corporate governance practices as a foreign private issuer and those required of U.S. domestic companies under NYSE Listing Standards see “Item 16G – Corporate Governance”.

Under the Companies Law, our Board of Directors must determine the minimum number of directors having financial and accounting expertise, as defined in the regulations of the Companies Law, that our Board of Directors should have. In determining the number

Table of Contents

of directors required to have such expertise, the Board of Directors must consider, among other things, the type and size of the company and the scope and complexity of its operations. Our Board of Directors has determined that we require at least two directors with the requisite financial and accounting expertise and that Messrs. Dankner, Erel, Cohen, Bronshtein, Gavrieli and Lusky have such expertise. The Companies Law and the regulations promulgated thereunder also require that at least one of our External Directors has financial and accounting expertise and consider a person who is an audit committee independent financial expert according to a foreign law, to comply with that requirement. Our Board of Directors has determined that Ms. Ronit Baytel qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" as defined by the SEC in Item 16.A of Form 20-F.

Board of Directors and Officers

Our Board of Directors currently consists of eleven directors, including four independent directors under the rules of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act applicable to audit committee members, of which two also qualify as external directors under the Companies Law. Seven of our current directors, including independent directors Mr. Waxe and Mr. Kunda, were elected at our annual shareholders meeting held in August 2012. Our external directors, Mr. Barnea and Ms. Baytel were elected in our annual shareholders meeting held in April 2010 for a term of three years and we intend to propose their reelection for another term of three years at our forthcoming annual shareholders meeting. Two additional directors, Messrs. Dankner and Bronshtein, were appointed by DIC, as founding shareholder, in accordance with our license and articles of association's requirement that at least 20% of our directors be appointed by Israeli citizens and residents from among our founding shareholders. We do not enter into service contracts with our directors. Our articles of association provide that we must have at least five directors.

Each director (other than external directors and directors required to be appointed by Israeli citizens and residents from among our founding shareholders) will hold office until the next annual general meeting of our shareholders following his or her election. The approval of at least a majority of the voting rights represented at a general meeting and voting on the matter is generally required to remove any of our directors from office (other than external directors and directors required to be appointed by Israeli citizens and residents from among our founding shareholders), provided that directors appointed by the Board of Directors may also be removed by the Board of Directors. A majority of our shareholders at a general meeting may elect directors or fill any vacancy, however created, in our Board of Directors (other than external directors and directors required to be appointed by Israeli citizens and residents from among our founding shareholders). In addition, directors, other than an external director or a director required to be appointed by Israeli citizens and residents from among our founding shareholders, may be appointed by a vote of a majority of the directors then in office.

Our articles of association provide, as allowed by Israeli law, that any director may, by written notice to us, appoint another person who is not a director to serve as an alternate director (subject to the approval of the chairman of the Board of Directors; and in the case of an appointment made by the chairman, such appointment shall be valid unless objected to by the majority of other directors) and may cancel such appointment. The term of appointment of an alternate director is unlimited in time and scope unless otherwise specified in the appointment notice, or until notice is given of the termination of the appointment. No director currently has appointed any other person as an alternate director. The Companies Law stipulates that a person who serves as a director may not serve as an alternate director except

Table of Contents

under very limited circumstances. An alternate director has the same responsibility as a director.

Each of our executive officers serves at the discretion of our Board of Directors and holds office until his or her successor is elected or until his or her earlier resignation or removal. There are no family relationships among any of our directors or executive officers.

External Directors

Qualifications of external directors

Companies incorporated under the laws of the State of Israel whose securities are listed on a stock exchange are required by the Companies Law to appoint at least two external directors. External directors are required to possess professional and other qualifications as set out in the Companies Law and the regulations promulgated thereunder. The appointment of our external directors was approved by our shareholders in May 2007 for an initial term of three years, in April 2010 for a second term of three years and we intend to propose their reelection for another term of three years at our forthcoming annual shareholders meeting. The Companies Law provides that a person may not be appointed as an external director of a company that has a controlling shareholder if the person is a relative of the controlling shareholder, or if the person, or the person's relative, partner, employer, direct or indirect supervisor or any entity under the person's control, has or had during the two years preceding the date of appointment, any affiliation with the company or any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with the company.

The term affiliation includes:

- an employment relationship;
- a business or professional relationship maintained on a regular basis;
- control; and
- service as an office holder, excluding service as a director in a private company prior to its initial public offering if such director was appointed in order to serve as an external director following the offering.

The term "office holder" is defined in the Companies Law as a general manager, chief business manager, deputy general manager, vice general manager, any manager directly subordinate to the general manager or any other person assuming the responsibilities of any of the foregoing positions, without regard to such person's title, and a director. Each person listed above under "Item 6.A - Directors and Senior Management," except Gil Ben-Itzhak, is an office holder for this purpose.

No person may serve as an external director if the person's position or other business interests creates, or may create, a conflict of interest with the person's responsibilities as a director or may otherwise interfere with the person's ability to serve as a director. If at the time an external director is appointed all current members of the board of directors are of the same gender, then that external director must be of the other gender.

Until the lapse of two years from termination of office, a company may not appoint an external director, his or her spouse and child, as an office holder in that company or another

Table of Contents

company under the same control, and cannot employ or receive services from that person for pay or grant any benefit, either directly or indirectly, including through a corporation controlled by that person, and in regards to a relative that is not his or her spouse or child - until the lapse of one year.

Election of external directors

External directors are elected by a majority vote at a shareholders' meeting, provided that either:

- at least a majority of the shares of non-controlling shareholders voted at the meeting vote in favor of the election of the external director; or
- the total number of shares of non-controlling shareholders voted against the election of the external director does not exceed 2% of the aggregate voting rights in the company.

The initial term of an external director is three years and he or she may be reelected to two additional terms of three years by means of one of the following mechanisms: (i) the board of directors proposed the nominee and his appointment was approved by the shareholders in the manner required to appoint external directors for their initial term, or (ii) a shareholder holding 1% or more of the voting rights proposed the nominee, and the nominee is approved by a majority of the votes cast by the shareholders of the company, excluding the votes of controlling shareholders and those who have a personal interest in the matter as a result of their relations with the controlling shareholders, provided that, the aggregate votes cast by shareholders who are not controlling shareholders and do not have a personal interest in the matter as a result of their relations with the controlling shareholders in favor of the nominee constitute more than 2% of the voting rights in the company. Thereafter, he or she may be reelected by our shareholders for additional periods of up to three years each only if the audit committee and the board of directors confirm that, in light of the external director's expertise and special contribution to the work of the board of directors and its committees, the reelection for such additional period is beneficial to the company. An external director may only be removed by the same percentage of shareholders votes as is required for his or her election, or by a court, and then only if the external director ceases to meet the statutory qualifications or violates his or her duty of loyalty to the company. If an external directorship becomes vacant, a company's board of directors is required under the Companies Law to call a shareholders' meeting promptly to appoint a new external director.

Each committee of a company's board of directors that has the right to exercise a power delegated by the board of directors is required to include at least one external director, and the audit and compensation committees are required to include all of the external directors. An external director is entitled to compensation as provided in regulations adopted under the Companies Law and is otherwise prohibited from receiving any other compensation, directly or indirectly, in connection with services provided as an external director.

Israeli-Appointed Directors

Our license requires, and our articles of association provide, that at least 20% of our directors will be appointed and removed by shareholders who are Israeli citizens and Israeli residents from among our founding shareholders. If our Board of Directors is comprised of 14 directors or less, the Israeli shareholders will be entitled to appoint two directors, and if

Table of Contents

Our Board of Directors is comprised of between 15 and 24 directors, the Israeli shareholders will be entitled to appoint three directors. Our articles of association provide that DIC, as founding shareholder, is responsible for complying with the requirement under our license that Israeli citizens and residents from among our founding shareholders hold at least 20% of our outstanding shares, and that so long as DIC so complies, it will be entitled to appoint and remove these directors.

Board Committees

Our Board of Directors has established an audit committee, analysis committee, option committee, compensation committee and a security committee.

Audit committee

Under the Companies Law, the board of directors of a public company must establish an audit committee. The audit committee must consist of at least three directors and must include all of the company's external directors and the majority of its members is required to be independent (as such term is defined under the Israeli Companies Law). The chairman of the audit committee is required to be an external director. The audit committee may not include the chairman of the board, any director employed by the company or by its controlling shareholder or by an entity controlled by the controlling shareholder, a director who regularly provides services to the company or to its controlling shareholder or to an entity controlled by the controlling shareholder, and any director who derives most of its income from the controlling shareholder, a controlling shareholder or any of a controlling shareholder's relatives. The members of the audit committee are also required to meet the independence requirements established by the SEC in accordance with the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

Our audit committee provides assistance to our Board of Directors in fulfilling its legal and fiduciary obligations in matters involving our accounting, auditing, financial reporting and internal control functions by pre-approving the services performed by our independent accountants and reviewing their reports regarding our accounting practices and systems of internal control over financial reporting. The audit committee also oversees the audit efforts of our independent accountants and takes those actions as it deems necessary to satisfy itself that the accountants are independent of management. Under the Companies Law, the audit committee is required to identify deficiencies in the management of the company, including by consulting with the internal auditor or the independent accountants, and recommending remedial actions to the board of directors, assessing the scope of work and compensation of the company's independent accountant, assessing the company's internal audit function and the performance of its internal auditor, setting whistle blower procedures (including in respect of the protections afforded to whistle blowers) and is responsible for determining whether certain related party actions and transactions are "material" or "extraordinary" in connection with their approval procedures, reviewing and approving certain related party transactions, as described below. The audit committee may not approve such a related party transaction unless at the time of approval the two external directors were serving as members of the audit committee and at least one of them was present at the meeting at which the approval was granted.

Our audit committee is composed entirely of independent members (both under the Israeli Companies Law and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act) and includes all the external directors - Messrs. Barnea (chairman), Waxe , Baytel and Kunda. Our board of directors determined Ms.

Table of Contents

Baytel to be qualified to serve as an "audit committee financial expert" as defined by the SEC's rules.

Financial exposure management subcommittee

Our financial exposure management subcommittee, which is a subcommittee of our audit committee, was nominated by our board of directors and reviews our financial exposures, investment and hedging policies and recommends to our board of directors how we might enhance our investment and hedging performance. Our financial exposure management subcommittee consists of our external directors, Barnea and Baytel.

Analysis committee

Our analysis committee reviews our costs and annual budget and recommends ways to achieve cost efficiency in our activities to our Board of Directors. Our Analysis committee also reviews our operations and future plans and recommends how we might enhance our present and future performance to our Board of Directors. Our analysis committee consists of Messrs. Bronshtein (chairman), Erel, Cohen, Waxe, Barnea, Kunda and Lusky.

Option committee

Our option committee administers the issuance of options under our 2006 Share Incentive Plan to our employees who are not office holders, as well as any actions and decisions necessary for the ongoing management of the plan. Our option committee consists of Messrs. Erel (chairman), Dankner and Barnea.

Security committee and observer

Our security committee, which we were required to appoint once we became a public company pursuant to our license, deals with matters concerning state security. Only directors who have the requisite security clearance by Israel's General Security Services may be members of this committee. The committee is required to be comprised of at least four members, including at least one external director. In addition, the Minister of Communications is entitled under our license to appoint a state employee with security clearance to act as an observer in all meetings of our Board of Directors and its committees. Such an observer was appointed in February 2008. Our security committee consists of Messrs. Waxe, Bisker, Cohen and Barnea.

Compensation committee

Under the Companies Law, as amended in November 2012, the board of directors of a public company must establish a compensation committee. The compensation committee must consist of at least three directors and must include all of the company's external directors who should constitute the majority of its members. The chairman of the compensation committee must be one of the external directors. Other members of the committee should be directors whose terms of compensation are the same as external directors. Under the Companies Law, the compensation committee functions are to recommend to the board of directors, for ultimate shareholder approval by a special majority, a policy governing the compensation of office holders, based on specified criteria, to review modifications to the compensation policy from time to time, to review its implementation and to approve the actual compensation terms of office holders. Our compensation committee was appointed in December 2012 and its composition complies with the requirements

Table of Contents

described above. Our compensation committee consists of Ms. Baytel (chairperson), Ms. Lusky and Mr. Barnea.

Internal Auditor

Under the Companies Law, the board of directors of a public company must appoint an internal auditor nominated by the audit committee. The role of the internal auditor is to examine whether a company's actions comply with applicable law and orderly business procedure. Under the Companies Law, the internal auditor may not be an interested party or an office holder, or a relative of any of the foregoing, nor may the internal auditor be the company's independent accountant or its representative. An interested party is generally defined in the Companies Law as a 5% or greater shareholder, any person or entity who has the right to designate one director or more or the chief executive officer of the company or any person who serves as a director or as the chief executive officer. Our internal auditor is Mr. Eli Nir, CPA.

Approval of Specified Related Party Transactions under Israeli Law

Fiduciary duties of office holders

The Companies Law imposes a duty of care and a duty of loyalty on all office holders of a company. The duty of care requires an office holder to act with the degree of care with which a reasonable office holder in the same position would have acted under the same circumstances. The duty of care includes a duty to use reasonable means, in light of the circumstances, to obtain:

- information on the appropriateness of a given action brought for his or her approval or performed by virtue of his or her position; and
- all other important information pertaining to these actions.

The duty of loyalty of an office holder includes a duty to act in good faith and for the best interests of the company, including to:

- refrain from any conflict of interest between the performance of his or her duties in the company and his or her other duties or personal affairs;
- refrain from any activity that is competitive with the company;
- refrain from exploiting any business opportunity of the company to receive a personal gain for himself or herself or others; and
- disclose to the company any information or documents relating to the company's affairs which the office holder received as a result of his or her position as an office holder.

Personal interests of an office holder

The Companies Law requires that an office holder disclose any personal interest that he or she may have and all related material information known to him or her relating to any existing or proposed transaction by the company promptly and in any event no later than the first meeting of the board of directors at which such transaction is considered. If the transaction is an extraordinary transaction, the office holder must also disclose any personal

Table of Contents

interest held by the office holder's spouse, siblings, parents, grandparents, descendants, spouse's descendants and the spouses of any of these people.

Under the Companies Law, an extraordinary transaction is a transaction:

- other than in the ordinary course of business;
- that is not on market terms; or
- that is likely to have a material impact on the company's profitability, assets or liabilities.

Under the Companies Law, once an office holder complies with the above disclosure requirement, the transaction can be approved, provided that it is not adverse to the company's interest. A director who has a personal interest in a matter which is considered at a meeting of the board of directors or the audit committee, will generally not be present at this meeting or vote on this matter unless a majority of the directors or members of the audit committee have a personal interest in the matter. If a majority of the directors have a personal interest in the matter, the matter also generally requires approval of the shareholders of the company. Under the Companies Law, unless the articles of association provide otherwise, a transaction with an office holder, or a transaction with a third party in which the office holder has a personal interest, requires approval by the board of directors. If it is an extraordinary transaction, audit committee approval is required, as well. For the approval of the compensation, indemnification or insurance of an officer holder, see "Compensation Arrangements" below. Our articles of association provide that a non-extraordinary transaction with an office holder, or with a third party in which an office holder has a personal interest, may be approved by our Board of Directors, by our Audit Committee or, if the transaction involves the provision of our communications services and equipment or involves annual payments not exceeding NIS 250,000 per transaction, by our authorized signatories.

Personal interests of a controlling shareholder

Under the Companies Law, the disclosure requirements that apply to an office holder also apply to a controlling shareholder of a public company. A controlling shareholder is a shareholder who has the ability to direct the activities of a company, including a shareholder that owns 25% or more of the voting rights if no other shareholder owns more than 50% of the voting rights, but excluding a shareholder whose power derives solely from his or her position on the board of directors or any other position with the company. Accordingly, DIC, and entities and persons that directly or indirectly control DIC, are considered to be our controlling shareholders. Extraordinary transactions with a controlling shareholder or its relatives or in which a controlling shareholder has a personal interest, directly and indirectly, including through a company controlled by him or her, and any transaction for the receipt of services from him or her by the company (for arrangements regarding the compensation, indemnification or insurance of a controlling shareholder see "Compensation Arrangements" below), require the approval of the audit committee, the board of directors and a majority of the shareholders of the company, in that order. In addition, the shareholders approval must fulfill one of the following requirements:

- at least majority of the shareholders who have no personal interest in approving the transaction and who vote on the matter vote in favor of the transaction; or

Table of Contents

- the shareholders who have no personal interest in the transaction who vote against the transaction do not represent more than 2% of the voting rights in the company.

In addition, any such extraordinary transaction whose term is more than three years, require approval as described above every three years, unless (with respect to transactions not involving management fees or compensation) the audit committee approves that a longer term is reasonable under the circumstances.

Compensation Arrangements

A recent amendment to the Companies Law imposes new approval requirements for the compensation of office holders. Every public company must adopt a compensation policy, recommended by the compensation committee and approved by the board of directors and the shareholders, in that order, no later than September 2013. The shareholder approval requires a majority of the votes cast by shareholders, excluding any controlling shareholder and those who have a personal interest in the matter (similar to the threshold described above under "– Personal interests of a controlling shareholder"). In general, all office holders' terms of compensation – including fixed remuneration, bonuses, equity compensation, retirement or termination payments, indemnification, liability insurance and the grant of an exemption from liability – must comply with the company's compensation policy. In addition, the compensation terms of directors, the chief executive officer, and any employee or service provider who is considered a controlling shareholder must be approved separately by the compensation committee, the board of directors and the shareholders of the company (by the same majority noted above), in that order. The compensation terms of other officers require the approval of the compensation committee and the board of directors. We intend to adopt a compensation policy by the date set above.

Duties of shareholders

Under the Companies Law, a shareholder has a duty to refrain from abusing his or her power in the company and to act in good faith in exercising its rights in, and performing its obligations to the company and other shareholders, including, among other things, voting at general meetings of shareholders on the following matters:

- an amendment to the articles of association;
- an increase in the company's authorized share capital;
- a merger; and
- approval of related party transactions that require shareholders approval.

In addition, any controlling shareholder, any shareholder who knows that its vote can determine the outcome of a shareholders' vote and any shareholder who, under the company's articles of association, can appoint or prevent the appointment of an office holder or holds any other right in respect of the company, is required to act with fairness towards the company. The Companies Law does not describe the substance of this duty except to state that the remedies generally available upon a breach of contract will also apply in the event of a breach of the duty to act with fairness.

Table of Contents

Approval of Private Placements

Under the Companies Law, a private placement of securities requires approval by the board of directors and the shareholders of the company if it will cause a person to become a controlling shareholder or if:

- the securities issued amount to 20% or more of the company's outstanding voting rights before the issuance;
- some or all of the consideration is other than cash or listed securities or the transaction is not on market terms; and
- the transaction will increase the relative holdings of a shareholder that holds 5% or more of the company's outstanding share capital or voting rights or that will cause any person to become, as a result of the issuance, a holder of more than 5% of the company's outstanding share capital or voting rights.

D. EMPLOYEES

Our ability to achieve our strategic goals largely depends on our employees. Consequently, we strive to recruit the most suitable candidates for each position, to give our employees the best training needed to qualify them for their tasks within our organization and aim to keep them satisfied while being productive and efficient. We implement a comprehensive review system that periodically analyzes our employees' performance in order to improve their performance and in order to enable us to properly compensate, retain and promote our best employees. Since we are committed to provide the best service to our subscribers, approximately 78% of our work force (excluding Netvision subsidiaries employees) is engaged in customer facing positions.

The numbers and breakdowns of our full-time equivalent employees as of the end of the past three years are set forth in the following table:

Unit	Number of Full-Time Equivalent Positions		
	December 2010	December 2011	December 2012
	****	****	****
Management and headquarters	37	68	62
Human resources	52	72	55
Marketing	83	107	79
Customers*	3,779	5,518	4,159
Finance	134	176	144
Technologies	596	851	716
Operation and administration**	-	-	86
Netvision subsidiaries***	-	462	134
Total	4,681	7,254	5,435

*Includes the customer facing units: business customers, sales and services, Netvision sales and services, operations (until 2011) and supply chain.

** Includes purchasing, security and logistics which prior to 2012 were included in Customers.

***In which Netvision has 50% or more of the issued share capital.

****Including 7, 53 and 33 employees previously engaged through subcontractors, mainly in the Technologies and Supply chain units during 2010, 2011 and 2012 respectively; in 2010 including 289 employees of Dynamica and excluding 46 employees previously employed by us which are employed by Amdocs, as part of outsourcing services related to our billing system; in 2011 including 313 employees of Dynamica and 1,644 of Netvision; in 2012

including 352 employees of Dynamica and 1,331 of Netvision.

137

Table of Contents

Israeli labor laws govern the length of the workday, the number of work days per week, minimum wages for employees, provisions concerning hiring and dismissing employees, determination of severance pay, annual leave, sick days and other conditions of employment. Israeli law generally requires severance pay upon the retirement or death of an employee or termination of employment. Commencing in October 2008, Israeli law requires us to hire certain workers retained through subcontractors who provided us services for a certain minimum period. We are complying with this obligation. In addition, under a 2008 order issued by the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labor, all Israeli employers are obligated to contribute to a pension plan, amounts equal to a certain percentage of the employee's wages, for all employees, after a certain minimum period of employment. Under that order, contribution to a pension plan increases gradually until 2014 and up to 6% of the lower of the employee's wages or the average salary in Israel, with additional identical contribution for severance pay. We contribute to part of our employees' pension arrangements a percentage higher than that required by the 2008 order, which are also intended to cover future severance payment. A provision in our financial reports covers severance pay in other cases, such as to those employees who were not entitled to managers' insurance or other pension arrangements. Furthermore, we and our employees are required to make payments to the National Insurance Institute, which is similar to the U.S. Social Security Administration. Such amounts also include payments by the employee for health insurance. The total payments to the National Insurance Institute are (as of January 1, 2013) up to 18.5% of an employee's wages (up to a specified amount), of which the employee contributes approximately 12% and the employer contributes approximately 6.5%.

A new Israeli labor law, passed in 2012, subjects employers to increased liability, including monetary sanctions and criminal liability, in cases of violations of certain labor laws and certain violations by contractors providing maintenance, security and cleaning services.

We enter into personal employment agreements with our employees on either a monthly (in most cases, full-time positions) or hourly basis. Employment agreements with most of our employees are at will. Substantially all of our employees have signed non-disclosure and non-competition agreements, although the enforceability of non-competition agreements is limited under Israeli law.

Our employee compensation structure is aimed at encouraging and supporting employee performance towards enabling us to meet our strategic goals. Approximately 80% of our customer facing employees are entitled to performance-based incentives, which are granted mainly to customer-facing personnel, such as sales and service employees. In addition, some of our employees are entitled to an annual bonus based on our overall performance and individual performance, subject to the discretion of our Board of Directors. We also contribute funds on behalf of some of our employees to an education fund.

We have entered into agreements with a number of manpower agencies and programming companies under which they provide us with temporary workers.

Recent rulings by Israel's National Labor Court and changes to Israel's largest labor union's bylaws, facilitates substantially the primary organization of a labor union in companies in Israel. In January 2013, our competitor Pelephone recognized its employees representation by a labor union. Our employees are currently not represented by any labor

Table of Contents

union. Since our inception, we have not experienced labor-related work stoppages and believe that our relations with our employees are good.

E. SHARE OWNERSHIP

As of February 15, 2013, one of our directors, Mr. Nochi Dankner may be deemed to beneficially own 45,161,982, or approximately 45.4%, of our ordinary shares. 41,690,135 ordinary shares of these are beneficially owned by DIC and the voting rights in additional 3,412,500 are held by DIC (of which Mr. Dankner is the Chairman of the board of directors) and 59,347 ordinary shares are held by indirect subsidiaries of IDB Development (of which Mr. Dankner is the Chairman of the board of directors), for their own account. This does not include a total of 2,559,191 ordinary shares held as of that date for members of the public through, among others, provident funds, mutual funds, pension funds, insurance policies and unaffiliated third-party client accounts, which are managed by indirect subsidiaries of IDB Development, a few of which are also indirect subsidiaries of DIC. Mr. Dankner is also a controlling shareholder and the Chairman of the board of directors of IDB. IDB Development, IDB, Mr. Dankner and each of our other directors who are affiliated with IDB or DIC, disclaim beneficial ownership of such shares.

Except as described above, none of our executive officers or directors beneficially owns 1% or more of our outstanding ordinary shares.

2006 Share Incentive Plan

The Share Incentive Plan was introduced in September 2006. It is an option plan open to all our employees, directors, consultants and sub-contractors and to those of our affiliates and our shareholders' affiliates. Under the plan, our Board of Directors (or an option committee to which such authority may be delegated by our Board of Directors) is authorized to determine the terms of the awards, including the identity of grantees, the number of options or restricted stock units ("RSUs") to be granted, the vesting schedule and the exercise price. The options or RSUs have a term of six years and vest in four equal installments on each of the first, second, third and fourth anniversary of the date of grant. Under the plan, unvested options or RSUs terminate immediately upon termination of employment or service. The plan, as amended in 2008 and 2011, defines acceleration events of options or RSUs granted, including a merger, a consolidation, a sale of all or substantially all of our consolidated assets, or the sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of our outstanding shares. The plan terminates upon the earlier of ten years from its adoption date or the termination of all outstanding options or RSUs pursuant to an acceleration event. The terms of the 2006 Share Incentive Plan provide for a net exercise mechanism, the result of which is to require us to issue a smaller number of ordinary shares than represented by the outstanding options. Unless the Board of Directors otherwise approves, the number of ordinary shares issuable by us upon the exercise of an option will represent a market value that is equal to the difference between the market price of the ordinary shares and the option exercise price of the exercised options, at the date of exercise. Distribution of cash dividends before the exercise of the options reduces the exercise price of each option by an amount equal to the gross amount of the dividend per share distributed.

In May 2011, our board of directors resolved to enlarge the initial pool of options or RSUs of our 2006 Share Incentive Plan from 2.5 million, by 1.4 million options or RSUs and to grant 1.06 million additional options to certain non-director officers and senior employees, at an exercise price of US\$ 31.74 per share. The options granted will be vested in three equal installments on each of the first, second and third anniversary of the date of the grant. The

Table of Contents

options of the first installment may be exercised within 24 months from their vesting and the second and third installments may be exercised with 18 month from their vesting.

In May 2012, our board of directors resolved to enlarge the pool of options or RSUs of our 2006 Share Incentive Plan by one million options or RSUs.

In August 2012, our board of directors resolved to enlarge the pool of options or RSUs of our 2006 Share Incentive Plan by an additional one million options or RSUs and to grant 2,442,066 options to certain non-director officers and senior employees, of which 1,215,000 options were granted to our executive officers including 350,000 options to Mr. Sztern, our CEO, at an exercise price of US\$ 5.91 per share. The options granted will vest in two equal installments on each of the first and second anniversary of the date of grant. The options of the first installment may be exercised within 24 months from their vesting and the second installment may be exercised with 18 month from their vesting.

As of December 31, 2012, an aggregate of 3,019,152 ordinary shares are issuable upon exercise of options according to the terms above and Mr. Ami Erel, our Chairman of the Board of Directors, holds 54,647 of our ordinary shares.

In March 2013, our board of directors resolved to grant an additional 75,000 options to an executive officer, at an exercise price of US\$ 7.58 per share, under the same terms as the August 2012 grant.

ITEM 7. MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

A. MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS

The following table sets forth information regarding beneficial ownership of our shares as of February 15, 2013, by each person, or group of affiliated persons, known to us to be the beneficial owner of 5% or more of our outstanding shares.

In accordance with the rules of the SEC, beneficial ownership includes voting or investment power with respect to securities and includes any shares issuable pursuant to options that are exercisable within 60 days of February 15, 2013. Any shares issuable pursuant to options are deemed outstanding for computing the percentage of the person holding such options but are not outstanding for computing the percentage of any other person. The percentage of beneficial ownership for the following table is based on 99,481,487 ordinary shares outstanding as of February 15, 2013. To our knowledge, except as indicated in the footnotes to this table and pursuant to applicable community property laws, our major shareholders do not have different voting rights and the persons named in the table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all ordinary shares held by them.

Name of Beneficial Owner	Shares Beneficially Owned		
	Number	Percent	
Discount Investment Corporation Ltd.*	45,102,635	45.34	%
Psagot Investment House Ltd.**	3,843,089	3.86	%
Directors and executive officers as a group (26 persons)***	45,447,458	45.68	%

Table of Contents

*DIC, a public Israeli company traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, is a majority-owned subsidiary of IDB Development Corporation Ltd., or IDB Development. Includes 29,501,780 ordinary shares held by DIC directly, 12,188,355 ordinary shares held by a wholly-owned subsidiary of DIC (namely, DIC Communication and Technology Ltd., an Israeli company) and 3,412,500 ordinary shares, representing approximately 3.43% of our issued and outstanding shares, held by two shareholders whose voting rights are vested in DIC. Does not include 59,347 ordinary shares (representing approximately 0.06% of our issued and outstanding shares) held as of February 15, 2013 by indirect subsidiaries of IDB Development for their own account and a total of 2,559,191 ordinary shares (representing approximately 2.57% of our issued and outstanding shares) held as of that date for members of the public through, among others, provident funds, mutual funds, pension funds, insurance policies and unaffiliated third-party client accounts, which are managed by indirect subsidiaries of IDB Development, a few of which are also indirect subsidiaries of DIC.

IDB Development, an Israeli company, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of IDB Holding Corporation Ltd., or IDB, a public Israeli company traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

IDB is controlled as follows:

- Ganden Holdings Ltd., or Ganden, a private Israeli company controlled by Nochi Dankner (who is also the Chairman of the boards of directors of IDB, IDB Development and DIC and one of our directors) and his sister Shelly Bergman, held as of February 15, 2013, directly and through a wholly-owned subsidiary, approximately 47.20% of the outstanding shares of IDB;
- Nochi Dankner held as of February 15, 2013, directly and through a company controlled by him, approximately 7.65% of the outstanding shares of IDB;
- Shelly Bergman held as of February 15, 2013, through a wholly-owned company, approximately 3.80% of the outstanding shares of IDB;
- Avraham Livnat Ltd., or Livnat, a private Israeli company controlled by Avraham Livnat, held as of February 15, 2013, directly and through a wholly-owned subsidiary, approximately 11.79% of the outstanding shares of IDB; and
- Manor Holdings B.A. Ltd., or Manor, a private Israeli company controlled by Ruth Manor (whose husband, Isaac Manor, and their son, Dori Manor, are directors of IDB, IDB Development and DIC), held as of February 15, 2013, directly and through a majority-owned subsidiary, approximately 9.94% of the outstanding shares of IDB.

Subsidiaries of Ganden, Livnat and Manor have entered into a shareholders agreement with respect to most of their holdings in IDB for the purpose of maintaining and exercising control of IDB as a group. Their additional holdings in IDB are not subject to the shareholders agreement. The term of the shareholders agreement expires in May 2023.

A portion of the foregoing holdings in IDB have been pledged to financial institutions as collateral for loans taken to finance the purchase of IDB's shares. Upon certain events of default, these financial institutions may foreclose on the loans and assume ownership of or sell such holdings.

Based on the foregoing, IDB and IDB Development (by reason of their control of DIC), Ganden, Manor and Livnat (by reason of their control of IDB) and Nochi Dankner, Shelly Bergman, Ruth Manor, and Avraham Livnat (by reason of their control of Ganden, Manor and Livnat, respectively) may be deemed to share with DIC the power to vote and dispose of our shares beneficially owned by DIC. Each of these entities (other than DIC) and persons disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares, and all of these entities and persons disclaim beneficial ownership of our shares

held under management of subsidiaries of IDB Development for others. According to an investment agreement between Ganden and an entity controlled by Mr. Eduardo Elzstain (which, as of December 31, 2012, held 10% of Ganden's outstanding share capital), such entity received an option to increase its holding in Ganden to up to approximately 30.8% of Ganden's outstanding share capital. The option is exercisable until April 10, 2013 subject to certain conditions. In case of full exercise of the option, and subject to obtaining of regulatory approvals and other conditions, certain shareholders arrangements shall become effective, including that material decisions in Ganden would require the consent of both Nochi Dankner and Eduardo Elzstain. With entry into force of these shareholders arrangements, Mr. Elzstain may be considered as one of IDB's controlling shareholders and one of our indirect controlling shareholders.

Table of Contents

**Represents shares beneficially owned for the benefit of owners of portfolio accounts exchange traded notes , and for the members of mutual funds ,provident funds , and pension funds managed by wholly-owned subsidiaries of Psagot Investment House Ltd. Psagot Investment House Ltd. disclaims beneficial ownership of any such shares. The foregoing information is based on a Schedule 13G filed by Psagot Investment House Ltd. on February 11, 2013.

***Includes the 45,102,635 ordinary shares held, directly or indirectly, by DIC and 59,347 ordinary shares held by indirect subsidiaries of IDB Development, for their own account, which may be deemed to be beneficially owned by Nochi Dankner by virtue of his control of IDB. Does not include an aggregate of 2,559,191 of our ordinary shares held, as of February 15, 2013, by members of the public through, among others, provident funds, mutual funds, pension funds, insurance policies and unaffiliated third-party client accounts, which are managed by indirect subsidiaries of IDB Development a few of which are also indirect subsidiaries of DIC. Each of our directors who is affiliated with IDB or DIC disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares. Also includes 230,829 ordinary shares issuable upon the exercise of stock options that are exercisable on, or within 60 days following February 15, 2013, and 54,647 ordinary shares held by Mr. Ami Erel as of February 15, 2013.

As of December 31, 2012, we had twenty two holders of record of our equity securities who are, to our knowledge, located in the United States. The shares held by these holders of record represent 95.6% of our outstanding ordinary shares. However, this number is not representative of the number of beneficial holders nor is it representative of where such beneficial holders are located because approximately 95.59% of our ordinary shares were held of record by Cede & Co. for the account of the brokers or other nominees, including the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange; approximately 41.91 % of our ordinary shares owned directly and indirectly by DIC as of February 15, 2013 is also held of record by Cede & Co.

In 2011 and February 2013, DIC sold approximately 5% and 1.7%, respectively, of our issued share capital and in 2011 purchased approximately 0.31% of our issued share capital in the TASE.

B. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Agreements among Our Shareholders

In September 2005, DIC acquired the shares and voting rights in our company held indirectly by BellSouth and the Safra brothers. In 2006, DIC sold a portion of these shares in four transactions to six financial investors based on the price of the Safra transaction, with adjustments for dividends paid and certain additions to such price accrued during the period from the closing of the Safra transaction to the applicable sale transaction. The following summaries of the agreements between DIC and certain other shareholders relate only to provisions that were in effect as of January 1, 2012 or thereafter.

Original 1997 shareholders agreements

Brian Greenspun, Daniel Steinmetz, Benjamin Steinmetz and Shlomo Piotrkowsky, who owned of record, directly or indirectly, an aggregate of approximately 5.5% of our then outstanding ordinary shares, granted the voting rights in these shares to BellSouth and the Safra brothers. These voting rights were assigned to DIC in connection with its acquisition of our control in September 2005. In 2009, DIC purchased the minority stakes held by Brian Greenspun and Benjamin Steinmetz (indirectly), representing approximately 1.97% of our then share capital. The remaining minority shareholders currently own approximately 3.43% of our outstanding ordinary shares. These minority shareholders are restricted from transferring these shares without the prior written consent of DIC and their transfer are subject to a right of first refusal in favor of DIC. Each of these minority shareholders has also

Table of Contents

committed not to compete, directly or indirectly, with our cellular communications business in Israel so long as he is a shareholder and for a period of one year thereafter.

Migdal 2006 share purchase agreement

In 2006, DIC sold 4% of our then outstanding ordinary shares to Migdal Insurance Company Ltd. and two of its affiliates, or the Migdal shareholders. As part of this transaction, DIC granted the Migdal shareholders a tag along right, in the event it sells shares resulting in it no longer being a controlling shareholder. In return, DIC has the right to force the Migdal shareholders to sell their shares in a transaction in which DIC sells all of its shares to a purchaser outside the IDB group. To the best of our knowledge, no such right has materialized.

Relationship with IDB

As of December 31, 2012, an aggregate amount of approximately NIS 186 million principal amount of our Series B, C, D, E, F and G Debentures were held by investors who are members of the IDB group and entities affiliated with IDB's principal shareholders or officers (other than for the benefit of members of the public through provident funds, mutual funds, pension funds and unaffiliated third-party client accounts, which are managed by indirect subsidiaries of IDB).

As of February 15, 2013, an aggregate of 2,559,191 of our ordinary shares (not included in the holdings set forth in the Beneficial Owners' table above) were held by members of the public through, among others, provident funds, mutual funds, pension funds, insurance policies and unaffiliated third-party client accounts, which are managed by indirect subsidiaries of IDB, some of which are also indirect subsidiaries of DIC.

In October 2006, we entered into an agreement with DIC, to benefit from the experience that DIC has in telecommunications and in the Israeli market generally, pursuant to which DIC provides us with services in the areas of management, finance, business and accountancy in consideration of NIS 2.0 million (linked to the Israeli Consumer Price Index for June 2006) plus VAT per year. Among the services included are consulting and assistance on managerial, economic and accounting issues, such as the preparation of an annual budget, strategic plans and central business processes for us. In addition, the provision of employees and officers of DIC and its affiliates to be directors of Cellcom is included in the agreement. This agreement is for a term of one year and is automatically renewed for one-year terms unless either party provides 60 days' prior notice to the contrary. In July 2011, our annual shareholders meeting approved an amendment of the agreement so as to clarify that the DIC officers and employees whose service as directors are covered by the management fees, shall not include any person who serves solely as a director of a subsidiary (or several subsidiaries) of DIC (and does not serve as a director of DIC itself) and does not receive any compensation, other than director's fees, in his or her capacity as a director of any subsidiary of DIC. Also, under the Israeli Companies Law, an agreement with a controlling shareholder, such as our management services agreement with DIC, cannot continue for more than three consecutive years unless re-approved by the audit committee, board of directors and shareholders every three years. Accordingly, our audit committee, board of directors and shareholders approved the agreement for a term ending in October 2014.

In the ordinary course of business, from time to time, we purchase, lease, sell and cooperate in the sale of goods and services, or otherwise engage in transactions with entities

Table of Contents

that are members of the IDB group, entities affiliated with IDB's principal shareholders or officers and entities otherwise engaged with such IDB member or affiliates in a manner that may create a personal interest of our controlling shareholders or directors. We believe that all such transactions are on commercial terms comparable to those that we could obtain from unaffiliated parties.

Registration Rights Agreement

In 2006, we entered into a registration rights agreement with DIC, two wholly-owned subsidiaries of DIC (one of whom ceased to exist in 2011) which are shareholders and six other shareholders (some of whom no longer hold the registrable shares). For a summary of the terms of the agreement, see "Item 10. Additional Information – C. Material Contracts."

Merger with Netvision

On August 31, 2011, we completed a merger transaction between us, a wholly-owned subsidiary of ours and Netvision, pursuant to which the abovementioned subsidiary was merged with and into Netvision as the surviving company, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Companies Law. Following the merger, Netvision was delisted from the TASE and became a private company wholly owned by us.

The aggregate merger consideration was approximately NIS 1.57 billion (\$421 million). The merger consideration included interest at an effective rate of 5% per year, calculated based on actual days elapsed from April 1, 2011 until the completion of the transaction, in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement. We financed the payment of the merger consideration by using cash on hand, as well as by issuance of debentures to the public in Israel.

Since both us and Netvision were public companies under the joint control of the IDB group, each of us was required by the Companies Law to obtain the approval of the audit committee, board of directors and a special majority of shareholders. Our audit committee and board of directors approved the merger on June 13, 2011 and June 15, 2011, respectively. On July 27, 2011, the merger was approved by our shareholders.

C. INTERESTS OF EXPERTS AND COUNSEL

Not applicable.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Consolidated Financial Statements

See Item 18.

Legal Proceedings

General

We are served from time to time with claims concerning various matters, including disputes with customers, former employees, commercial disputes with third parties with

Table of Contents

whom we do business and disputes with government entities, including local planning and building committees and the Ministry of Communications. These include purported class actions, filed mainly by our subscribers, regarding claims such as alleged overcharging of tariffs, misleading representations, providing services not in compliance with applicable law, our license's requirements or a subscriber's agreement. The following is a summary of all significant or potentially significant litigation as well as all our purported class actions, pending as of the date of this annual report.

Various legislative and regulatory changes have been imposed in recent years and additional changes may occur. As a result, the number of requests for certification of class action lawsuits against us have increased which may increase our legal exposure as a result of such class action lawsuits and our legal costs in defending against such suits. See "Item 3. Key Information – D. Risk Factors - We are exposed to, and currently are engaged in, a variety of legal proceedings, including class action lawsuits."

In cases where the claim is approved, all amounts noted below will be adjusted to reflect changes in the Israeli CPI and statutory interest, from the date that each claim was filed.

Based on advice of counsel, we believe it is more likely than not that substantially all the claims and disputes detailed below will be determined in our favor and accordingly, no provision has been made in the financial statements in respect of these claims and disputes. We have made a provision in the amount of approximately NIS 65 million, for a class action decided against us and for the claim/s and dispute/s we are willing to settle or for which we cannot reach a conclusion that it is more likely than not that the claim/s and dispute/s will be determined in our favor.

Purported class actions

34 purported class actions have been filed against us in connection with allegations that we unlawfully, in violation of our license or agreements with our subscribers, charged or overcharged our subscribers for our services, in amounts estimated by the plaintiffs to be from approximately NIS 1.2 million to approximately NIS 405 million or which were not estimated by these plaintiffs, if the lawsuits are certified as class actions. Two purported class actions, for which no amount claimed was estimated by the plaintiffs, were dismissed with prejudice and the plaintiffs appealed the ruling. In one purported class action, for which no amount claimed was estimated by the plaintiffs, a settlement agreement for an immaterial sum was filed with the court and the proceedings are still pending.

Six purported class actions were filed against us in connection with allegations that we misled our subscribers, in amounts estimated by the plaintiffs to be from approximately NIS 26 million to approximately NIS 170 million, if the lawsuits are certified as class actions. In two purported class actions, for a total amount claimed, if certified as class actions, of approximately NIS 51 million, settlement agreements for immaterial sums were filed with the court and the proceedings are still pending. One purported class action (for which no amount claimed was estimated by the plaintiff) was dismissed following plaintiff's request and appealed by the Israeli General Counsel regarding a procedural question regarding such dismissal.

Two purported class actions were filed against us in connection with allegations that we unlawfully, in violation of our license or agreements with our subscribers, build and

Table of Contents

operate our network and sell handsets and related equipment, including in relation to alleged hazards relating to non ionizing radiation emitted from cell sites and end-user equipment in amounts estimated by the plaintiffs to be from approximately NIS 1 billion to approximately NIS 3.7 billion, if the lawsuits are certified as class actions.

One purported class action was filed against us in connection with allegations that we unlawfully sent to our subscribers and to other parties commercial messages, in amounts estimated by the plaintiffs to be approximately NIS 50 million , if the lawsuit is certified as a class action.

Two purported class actions were filed against us in connection with allegations that we unlawfully, in violation of our license or agreements with our subscribers, discriminate among our subscribers, one in an amount estimated by the plaintiffs to be approximately NIS 150 million, if the lawsuit is certified as class action, and the other for which no amount claimed was estimated by the plaintiff.

One purported class action was filed against us regarding a network malfunction that occurred on December 1, 2010 in connection with allegations that we misled our subscribers and unlawfully and in violation of our license and agreements with our subscribers, failed to provide service to our subscribers during the malfunction, in an amounts estimated by the plaintiffs to be approximately NIS 350 per customer in a private calling plan and NIS 700 per customer in a business calling plan and approximately NIS 1.183 billion for non monetary damages as well as the relative portion of the monthly payment relating to the hours of the malfunction, if the lawsuit is certified as a class action.

Two purported class actions were filed against us in connection with allegations that we failed to provide customer care in accordance with the provisions of our license and applicable law, in amounts estimated by the plaintiffs to be approximately NIS 107 millions and approximately NIS 361 million (which was filed against three additional operators without specifying the amount claimed from us), if the lawsuits are certified as class actions.

For additional details regarding purported class actions in claimed amounts exceeding NIS 1 billion, see note 31 to our consolidated financial report for 2012 included elsewhere in this annual report.

We have recorded appropriate provisions for each of the settlement agreements filed with the courts and described above.

In August 2009, the District Court of Central Region approved a request to certify a lawsuit as a class action, relating to an allegation that we breached the agreements with our subscribers by charging them for a call detail service we previously provided free of charge, without obtaining their consent. The total amount claimed was estimated by the plaintiffs to be approximately NIS 440 million. In December 2011, the Court decided against us, accepted the allegation and ordered us to repay our customers the sum charged for the service in the amount of approximately NIS 22 million plus interest and linkage differences from the date of each payment made by the subscribers, an amount of NIS 200,000 to be paid to the plaintiffs and a fee for the plaintiffs' attorney equal to 10% of the sum to be repaid plus VAT. In January 2012, we have appealed the judgment with the Supreme Court and the execution of the judgment was stayed until the appeal is decided. We have recorded a provision for the entire sum in our financial statements.

Table of Contents

In November 2010, the District Court of Tel Aviv-Jaffa approved a request to certify a lawsuit as a class action, relating to an allegation that Netvision, our wholly owned subsidiary and two other long distance providers, misled the purchasers of certain long distance prepaid calling cards bought between 2004 and 2008 as to the amount of minutes included in those cards. The total amount claimed from all the defendants was estimated by the plaintiffs to be approximately NIS 2.2 billion, of which approximately NIS 818 million was attributed to Netvision. In December 2010, the defendants filed a request for appeal with the Supreme Court challenging the decision and in March 2011 the district court's decision was stayed. A similar purported class action was filed against the defendants in February 2012. See note 29 to our consolidated financial report for 2012 included elsewhere in this annual report. In May 2012, Netvision and another defendant entered a settlement agreement in both the class action and the purported class action, under which Netvision and the other defendant will provide certain long distance prepaid calling cards, free of charge, for an aggregate amount which is not material to the Company, and will further provide certain information in relation to the usage of the cards. The third defendant is not a party to the settlement agreement. The settlement agreement is subject to the approval of the Israeli Supreme Court.

Dividend Policy

In February 2006, our board of directors adopted a dividend policy to distribute each year at least 75% of our annual net income determined (in accordance with IFRS for periods commencing on or after January 1, 2008), subject to applicable law, our license and our contractual obligations and provided that such distribution would not be detrimental to our cash needs or to any plans approved by our Board of Directors. In March 2007, our Board of Directors resolved to distribute dividends within the boundaries of the February 2006 dividend policy and until resolved otherwise, on a quarterly basis. In March 2012, we amended the 2011 shelf prospectus and indenture included therein to include additional undertakings in regards to certain new series of debentures, if offered by us, including a covenant not to distribute more than 95% of the profits available for distribution according to the applicable Israeli law ("Profits"), provided that if net leverage (defined as the ratio of net debt to EBITDA over four consecutive quarters) exceeds 3.5:1, we will not distribute more than 85% of the Profits and if net leverage exceeds 4.0:1, we will not distribute more than 70% of the Profits. In March 2012, we issued two new series of debenture to which such undertakings apply. See "Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects - B. Liquidity and Capital Resources - Debt Service –Shelf Prospectus". Our Board of Directors will consider, among other factors, our expected results of operation, including changes in pricing, regulation and competition, planned capital expenditure for technological upgrades and changes in debt service needs, including due to changes in interest rates or currency exchange rates, as well as our debentures' rating, in order to conclude whether there is no reasonable concern that a distribution of dividends will prevent us from satisfying our existing and foreseeable obligations as they become due. In addition, there is an agreement among the controlling shareholders of IDB, our ultimate parent company, to target a dividend distribution of at least 50% of its distributable gains each year, provided that such distribution will not impact significantly its cash-flows or approved plans. Dividend payments are not guaranteed and our Board of Directors may decide, in its absolute discretion, at any time and for any reason, not to pay dividends or to pay dividends at a ratio to net income that is less than that paid in the past. For example, our Board of Directors may determine to strengthen our balance sheet, that market conditions are uncertain or that our cash needs for debt service, capital expenditures or operations may increase and that it would not be prudent to distribute dividends. Accordingly, shareholders should not expect that any particular amount will be

Table of Contents

distributed by us as dividends at any time, even if we have previously made dividend payments in such amount.

Our ability to pay dividends is subject to the following limitations under Israeli law: (1) dividends may only be paid out of cumulative retained earnings or out of retained earnings over the prior two years, provided that there is no reasonable concern that the payment of the dividend will prevent us from satisfying our existing and foreseeable obligations as they become due; and (2) our license requires that we and our 10% or more shareholders maintain at least \$200 million of combined shareholders' equity. DIC's shareholders' equity on December 31, 2012 was significantly over \$ 200 million.

We declare dividends in NIS and convert them for payment in US\$ (where applicable) based upon the daily representative rate of exchange as published by the Bank of Israel prior to the distribution date.

In 2010, we distributed a dividend in the amount of NIS 1,327 million (\$355 million). In 2011, we distributed a dividend in the amount of approximately NIS 827 million (\$222 million). In January and May 2012 we distributed a dividend in the amount of approximately NIS 189 million (\$51 million) and NIS 72 (\$19 million) for the third and fourth quarters of 2011. The dividends distributed in respect of 2010 and 2011 constituted approximately 95% of our net income for the respective period and in some cases, part of our retained earnings from earlier periods as well. In July 2012 we distributed a dividend in the amount of approximately NIS 130 million (\$35 million) for the first quarter of 2012, representing approximately 75% of our net income for the period.

Our board of directors decided not to declare dividend for the second, third and fourth quarters of 2012 in light of the intensified competition and substantial changes to pricing and their adverse effect on our results of operations and in order to strengthen our balance sheet.

B. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

No significant change has occurred since December 31, 2012, except as otherwise disclosed in this annual report.

ITEM 9. THE OFFER AND LISTING

A. OFFER AND LISTING DETAILS

Trading in Israel

Our ordinary shares have traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange under the symbol CEL since July 1, 2007. Our ordinary shares do not trade on any other trading market in Israel.

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the reported high and low prices in NIS for our ordinary shares on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, as retroactively adjusted by the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange to reflect the payment of dividends.

Table of Contents

	High NIS	Low NIS
Annually		
2008	76.7	51.8
2009	91.9	53.0
2010	102.4	75.9
2011	99.1	55.7
2012	59.0	20.2
Quarterly		
2011		
First Quarter	99.1	91.0
Second Quarter	97.5	81.3
Third Quarter	84.7	65.6
Fourth Quarter	74.3	55.7
2012		
First Quarter	59.0	43.6
Second Quarter	44.7	22.4
Third Quarter	34.8	20.2
Fourth Quarter	39.1	30.7
Monthly		
2012		
September	34.8	28.3
October	36.6	33.1
November	37.9	33.6
December	39.1	30.7
2013		
January	32.4	27.1
February	28.6	27.1

On February 28, 2013, the closing price per share of our Ordinary Shares on the TASE was NIS 27.2.

Trading in the United States

Our ordinary shares have traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CEL since February 7, 2007.

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low prices in \$ for our ordinary shares on The New York Stock Exchange, as retroactively adjusted by the New York Stock Exchange to reflect the payment of dividends.

	High \$	Low \$
Annually		
2008	22.7	13.5
2009	24.3	13.2
2010	28.2	19.5
2011	28.2	14.7
2012	15.4	5.1

Quarterly		
2011		
First Quarter	28.0	25.1
Second Quarter	28.2	23.7
Third Quarter	24.8	17.7
Fourth Quarter	20.7	14.7

Table of Contents

2012			
First Quarter		15.4	11.5
Second Quarter		11.9	5.7
Third Quarter		9.3	5.1
Fourth Quarter		9.9	8.1
Monthly			
2012			
September		9.3	7.1
October		9.8	8.4
November		9.9	8.5
December		9.7	8.1
2013			
January		8.5	7.3
February		7.8	7.1

On March 1, 2013, the closing price per share of our Ordinary Shares on the NSYE was \$7.20.

B. PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Not applicable.

C. MARKETS

Our ordinary shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and Tel Aviv Stock Exchange under the symbol “CEL”

D. SELLING SHAREHOLDERS

Not applicable.

E. DILUTION

Not applicable.

F. EXPENSES OF THE ISSUE

Not applicable.

ITEM 10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A. SHARE CAPITAL

Not applicable.

B. MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

Objects and Purposes

Our registration number with the Israeli registrar of companies is 51-1930125. Our object is to engage, directly or indirectly, in any lawful undertaking or business whatsoever as determined by our Board of Directors, including, without limitation, as stipulated in our memorandum of association.

Table of Contents

Transfer of Shares

Fully paid ordinary shares are issued in registered form and may be freely transferred unless the transfer is restricted or prohibited by our articles of association, applicable law, our licenses, the rules of the SEC or the rules of a stock exchange on which the shares are traded. The ownership or voting of ordinary shares by non-residents of Israel is not restricted in any way by our articles of association or the laws of the State of Israel, except for ownership by nationals of some countries that are, or have been, in a state of war with Israel.

According to our licenses, investors are prohibited from acquiring (alone or together with relatives or with other parties who collaborate on a regular basis) or transferring our shares, directly or indirectly (including by way of creating a pledge which if foreclosed, will result in the transfer of shares), in one transaction or a series of transactions, if such acquisition or transfer will result in a holding or transfer of 10% or more of any of our means of control, or from transferring any of our means of control if as a result of such transfer, control over our company will be transferred from one party to another, without the prior approval of the Ministry of Communications. Our specific licenses also require approval of the Minister of Communications before acquiring the ability to effect a significant influence over us. In this context, holding 25% of our means of control is presumed to confer significant influence. In addition, according to our licenses, if you hold more than 5% of our means of control, you may not hold, directly or indirectly, more than 5% of the means of control in Bezeq or another cellular operator in Israel (subject to certain exceptions) and may not serve as an office holder of one of our competitors, other than in specific circumstances and subject to the approval of the Ministry of Communications. For more details relating to these restrictions, please see “Item 4. Information on the Company – B. Business Overview – Government Regulations - Our Principal License” and our principal license, a convenience translation of which has been filed with the SEC. See "Item 19 – Exhibits". The holding and transfer restrictions under our licenses are posted on our website at www.cellcom.co.il under “Investor Relations – Corporate Governance – Company Profile - Legal & Corporate.”

Voting

Holders of our ordinary shares have one vote for each ordinary share held on all matters submitted to a vote of shareholders at a shareholder meeting. Shareholders may vote at shareholder meetings either in person, by proxy or by written ballot. Shareholder voting rights may be affected by the grant of