

Nielsen Holdings plc  
Form SC 13D  
August 13, 2018  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13D

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Nielsen Holdings plc  
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, €0.07 par value  
(Title of Class of Securities)

G6518L108  
(CUSIP Number)

Elliott Associates, L.P.

c/o Elliott Management Corporation

40 West 57th Street

New York, NY 10019

with a copy to:

Eleazer Klein, Esq.  
Marc Weingarten, Esq.

Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP

919 Third Avenue

New York, New York 10022

(212) 756-2000  
(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person  
Authorized to Receive Notices and  
Communications)

August 10, 2018  
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of This  
Statement)

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If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition that is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this schedule because of Rule 13d-1(e), Rule 13d-1(f) or Rule 13d-1(g), check the following box. [ ]

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\* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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**1** NAME OF REPORTING PERSON

Elliott Associates, L.P.

**2** CHECK THE APPROPRIATE  x

BOX IF A

MEMBER OF (b) "

**3** A GROUP

SEC USE ONLY

**4** SOURCE OF FUNDS

WC

CHECK BOX

IF

DISCLOSURE

OF LEGAL

**5** PROCEEDING

IS

REQUIRED

PURSUANT

TO ITEMS

2(d) or 2(e)

CITIZENSHIP OR

PLACE OF

**6** ORGANIZATION

Delaware

SOLE

VOTING

**7** POWER

6,304,000 (1)

SHARED

VOTING

**8** NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH:

POWER

-0-

SOLE

DISPOSITIVE

**9** PERSON WITH:

POWER

6,304,000 (1)

SHARED

DISPOSITIVE

**10** POWER

-0-

<b>11</b>	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH PERSON
<b>12</b>	6,304,000 (1) CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11)        ..
<b>13</b>	EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11)
<b>14</b>	1.8% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON  PN

(1) Includes (i) 2,880,000 shares of Common Stock underlying Physical Derivative Agreements (as defined below) and (ii) Stock Call Options (as defined below) exercisable into 1,824,000 shares of Common Stock.

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**1** NAME OF REPORTING PERSON

Elliott International, L.P.

**2** CHECK THE APPROPRIATE  x BOX IF A MEMBER OF (b) "

**3** A GROUP SEC USE ONLY SOURCE OF FUNDS

**4** WC CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDING IS

**5** REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEMS 2(d) or 2(e) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

**6** Cayman Islands, British West Indies

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH: **7** SOLE VOTING POWER -0- SHARED VOTING POWER **8**

**9** 11,696,000 (1) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

**10** -0- SHARED DISPOSITIVE

POWER

11,696,000 (1)

**11** AGGREGATE  
AMOUNT  
BENEFICIALLY  
OWNED BY EACH  
PERSON

11,696,000 (1)  
CHECK IF THE  
AGGREGATE  
AMOUNT IN  
ROW (11) ..

**12** EXCLUDES  
CERTAIN  
SHARES  
PERCENT OF CLASS  
REPRESENTED BY

**13** AMOUNT IN ROW (11)

3.3%  
TYPE OF REPORTING  
PERSON

**14** PN

(1) Includes (i) 6,120,000 shares of Common Stock underlying Physical Derivative Agreements and (ii) Stock Call Options exercisable into 2,176,000 shares of Common Stock.

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**1** NAME OF REPORTING PERSON

Elliott International  
Capital Advisors Inc.

**2** CHECK THE APPROPRIATE  x

BOX IF A MEMBER OF (b) "

**3** A GROUP  
**4** SEC USE ONLY  
SOURCE OF FUNDS

OO  
CHECK BOX  
IF

**5** DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDING IS

REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEMS 2(d) or 2(e)

**6** CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH:

Delaware  
SOLE VOTING POWER

**7** OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH:

-0- SHARED VOTING POWER

**8** 11,696,000 (1)  
SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

**9** -0- SHARED DISPOSITIVE

**10** SHARED DISPOSITIVE

POWER

11,696,000 (1)

**11** AGGREGATE  
AMOUNT  
BENEFICIALLY  
OWNED BY EACH  
PERSON

11,696,000 (1)  
CHECK IF THE  
AGGREGATE  
AMOUNT IN  
ROW (11) ..  
EXCLUDES  
CERTAIN  
SHARES  
PERCENT OF CLASS

**12** CHECK IF THE  
AGGREGATE  
AMOUNT IN  
ROW (11) ..  
EXCLUDES  
CERTAIN  
SHARES  
PERCENT OF CLASS  
**13** REPRESENTED BY  
AMOUNT IN ROW (11)

3.3%  
TYPE OF REPORTING  
PERSON

**14** CO

(1) Includes (i) 6,120,000 shares of Common Stock underlying Physical Derivative Agreements and (ii) Stock Call Options exercisable into 2,176,000 shares of Common Stock.



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**Item 1. SECURITY AND ISSUER**

This statement relates to the common stock, €0.07 par value (the "Common Stock"), of Nielsen Holdings plc, a public limited company incorporated under the laws of England and Wales (the "Issuer"). The Issuer's principal executive offices are located at 85 Broad Street, New York, New York 10004.

**Item 2. IDENTITY AND BACKGROUND**

(a)-(c) This statement is being filed by Elliott Associates, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership, and its wholly-owned subsidiaries (collectively, "Elliott" or "we"), Elliott International, L.P., a Cayman Islands limited partnership ("Elliott International"), and Elliott International Capital Advisors Inc., a Delaware corporation ("EICA" and collectively with Elliott and Elliott International, the "Reporting Persons").

Elliott Advisors GP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Elliott Advisors"), which is controlled by Paul E. Singer ("Singer"), Elliott Capital Advisors, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("Capital Advisors"), which is controlled by Singer, and Elliott Special GP, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Special GP"), which is controlled by Singer, are the general partners of Elliott. Hambledon, Inc., a Cayman Islands corporation ("Hambledon"), which is also controlled by Singer, is the sole general partner of Elliott International. EICA is the investment manager for Elliott International. EICA expressly disclaims equitable ownership of and pecuniary interest in any shares of Common Stock.

**ELLIOTT**

The business address of Elliott is 40 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10019.

The principal business of Elliott is to purchase, sell, trade and invest in securities.

### **SINGER**

Singer's business address is 40 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10019.

Singer's principal business is to serve as the sole managing member of Elliott Advisors, as a general partner of Capital Advisors, as the president of EICA, and as a managing member of Special GP.

### **CAPITAL ADVISORS**

The business address of Capital Advisors is 40 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10019.

The principal business of Capital Advisors is the furnishing of investment advisory services. Capital Advisors also serves as a managing member of Special GP and as a general partner of Elliott.

The names, business addresses, and present principal occupation or employment of the general partners of Capital Advisors are as follows:

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<b>NAME</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>OCCUPATION</b>
Paul E. Singer	40 West 57th St. New York, New York 10019	Sole Managing Member of Elliott Advisors; General partner of Capital Advisors; President of EICA; and a managing member of Special GP
Braxton Associates, Inc.	40 West 57th St. New York, New York 10019	The principal business of Braxton Associates, Inc. is serving as general partner of Capital Advisors
Elliott Asset Management LLC	40 West 57th St. New York, New York 10019	General Partner of Capital Advisors

The name, business address, and present principal occupation or employment of the sole director and executive officer of Braxton Associates, Inc. are as follows:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>OCCUPATION</b>
Paul E. Singer	40 West 57th St. New York, New York 10019	Sole Managing Member of Elliott Advisors; General partner of Capital Advisors; President of EICA; and a managing member of Special GP

**ELLIOTT SPECIAL GP, LLC**

The business address of Special GP is 40 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10019.

The principal business of Special GP is serving as a general partner of Elliott.

The names, business address, and present principal occupation or employment of the managing members of Special GP are as follows:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>OCCUPATION</b>
Paul E. Singer	40 West 57th St. New York, New York 10019	Sole Managing Member of Elliott Advisors; General partner of Capital Advisors; President of EICA; and a managing member of Special GP
Braxton Associates, Inc.	40 West 57th St. New York, New York 10019	The principal business of Braxton Associates, Inc. is serving as general partner of Capital Advisors
Elliott Asset Management LLC	40 West 57th St. New York, New York 10019	General Partner of Capital Advisors



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**ELLIOTT ADVISORS**

The business address of Elliott Advisors is 40 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10019.

The principal business of Elliott Advisors is serving as a general partner of Elliott.

The name, business address, and present principal occupation or employment of the sole managing member of Elliott Advisors are as follows:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>OCCUPATION</b>
Paul E. Singer	40 West 57th St. New York, New York 10019	Sole Managing Member of Elliott Advisors; General partner of Capital Advisors; President of EICA; and a managing member of Special GP

**ELLIOTT INTERNATIONAL**

The business address of Elliott International is c/o Maples & Calder, P.O. Box 309, Uglan House, South Church Street, George Town, Cayman Islands, British West Indies.

The principal business of Elliott International is to purchase, sell, trade and invest in securities.

The name, business address, and present principal occupation or employment of the general partner of Elliott International is as follows:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>OCCUPATION</b>
Hambledon, Inc.	c/o Maples & Calder P.O. Box 309 Uglan House South Church Street George Town, Cayman Islands British West Indies	General partner of Elliott International

**HAMBLEDON**

The name, business address, and present principal occupation or employment of the sole director and executive officer of Hambledon are as follows:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>OCCUPATION</b>
Paul E. Singer	40 West 57th St. New York, New York 10019	Sole Managing Member of Elliott Advisors; General partner of Capital Advisors; President of EICA; and a managing member of Special GP



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**EICA**

The business address of EICA is 40 West 57th Street New York, New York 10019.

The principal business of EICA is to act as investment manager for Elliott International.

The name, business address, and present principal occupation or employment of the sole director and executive officer of EICA is as follows:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>OCCUPATION</b>
Paul E. Singer	40 West 57th St. New York, New York 10019	Sole Managing Member of Elliott Advisors; General partner of Capital Advisors; President of EICA; and a managing member of Special GP

(d) and (e) During the last five years, none of the persons or entities listed above has been (i) convicted in a criminal proceeding (excluding traffic violations or similar misdemeanors); or (ii) a party to a civil proceeding of a judicial or administrative body of competent jurisdiction and as a result of such proceeding was or is subject to a judgment, decree or final order enjoining future violations of, or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws.

(f) Singer is a citizen of the United States of America.

**Item 3. SOURCE AND AMOUNT OF FUNDS OR OTHER CONSIDERATION**

The aggregate purchase price of the shares of Common Stock directly owned by Elliott Working Capital is approximately \$35,861,071. The aggregate purchase price of the Physical Derivative Agreements owned by Elliott is approximately \$64,299,161. The aggregate purchase price of the Stock Call Options owned by Elliott is approximately \$1,068,760.

The aggregate purchase price of the shares of Common Stock directly owned by Elliott International is approximately \$76,204,775. The aggregate purchase price of the Physical Derivative Agreements owned by Elliott International is approximately \$136,635,717. The aggregate purchase price of the Stock Call Options owned by Elliott International is approximately \$1,629,195.

The Reporting Persons may effect purchases of the shares of Common Stock through margin accounts maintained for them with prime brokers, which extend margin credit as and when required to open or carry positions in their margin accounts, subject to applicable federal margin regulations, stock exchange rules and such firms' credit policies. Positions in the shares of Common Stock may be held in margin accounts and may be pledged as collateral security for the repayment of debit balances in such accounts. Since other securities may be held in such margin accounts, it may not be possible to determine the amounts, if any, of margin used to purchase the shares of Common Stock.





#### Item 4. PURPOSE OF TRANSACTION

The Reporting Persons believe the securities of the Issuer are undervalued and represent an attractive investment opportunity. The Reporting Persons will seek to engage in a dialogue with the Issuer's Board of Directors (the "Board") and/or management about numerous operational and strategic opportunities to maximize shareholder value. The Reporting Persons will encourage the Issuer to undertake a full strategic review of, and initiate a process to explore, the sale of the Issuer in full, in addition to the exploration of the sale of certain of the Issuer's businesses or assets, including transactions in which the Reporting Persons may seek to participate and potentially engage in, as a purchaser or investor.

The Reporting Persons may consider, explore and/or develop plans and/or make proposals (whether preliminary or firm) with respect to, among other things, the matters set forth in the previous paragraph and potential changes in the Issuer's operations, management, organizational documents, Board composition, ownership, capital or corporate structure, sale transactions, dividend policy, and strategy and plans. The Reporting Persons intend to communicate with the Issuer's management and Board about, and may enter into negotiations with them regarding, the foregoing and a broad range of operational and strategic matters and to communicate with other shareholders or third parties, including potential acquirers, service providers and financing sources regarding the Issuer. The Reporting Persons may exchange information with any such persons pursuant to appropriate confidentiality or similar agreements. The Reporting Persons may change their intentions with respect to any and all matters referred to in this item 4. They

may also take steps to explore and prepare for various plans and actions, and propose transactions, before forming an intention to engage in such plans or actions or proceed with such transactions.

The Reporting Persons intend to review their investment in the Issuer on a continuing basis and depending upon various factors, including without limitation, the Issuer's financial position and strategic direction, the outcome of any discussions referenced above, overall market conditions, other investment opportunities available to the Reporting Persons, and the availability of securities of the Issuer at prices that would make the purchase or sale of such securities desirable, the Reporting Persons may endeavor (i) to increase or decrease their respective positions in the Issuer through, among other things, the purchase or sale of securities of the Issuer, including through transactions involving the Common Stock and/or other equity, debt, notes, other securities, or derivative or other instruments that are based upon or relate to the value of securities of the Issuer in the open market or in private transactions, including through a trading plan created under Rule 10b5-1(c) or otherwise, on such terms and at such times as the Reporting Persons may deem advisable and/or (ii) to enter into transactions that increase or hedge their economic exposure to the Common Stock without affecting their beneficial ownership of the Common Stock. In addition, the Reporting Persons may, at any time and from time to time, (i) review or reconsider their position and/or change their purpose and/or formulate plans or proposals with respect thereto and (ii) consider or propose one or more of the actions described in subparagraphs (a) - (j) of Item 4 of Schedule 13D.

**Item 5. PURPOSE OF TRANSACTION**

**(a) As of the date hereof, Elliott, Elliott International and EICA collectively have beneficial ownership of 18,000,000 shares of Common Stock constituting approximately 5.1% of the shares of Common Stock outstanding and combined economic exposure in the Issuer equivalent to 30,000,000 shares of Common Stock constituting approximately 8.4% of the shares of Common Stock outstanding.**

The aggregate percentage of the shares of Common Stock reported owned by each person named herein is based upon 355,207,609 shares of Common Stock outstanding, which is the total number of shares of Common Stock outstanding as of June 30, 2018 as reported in the Issuer's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2018, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 26, 2018.

As of the date hereof, Elliott beneficially owned 6,304,000 shares of Common Stock, including (i) 2,880,000 shares of Common Stock underlying Physical Derivative Agreements through The Liverpool Limited Partnership, a Bermuda limited partnership that is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Elliott ("Liverpool"), that Elliott may be deemed to beneficially own upon satisfaction of certain conditions and (ii) Stock Call Options exercisable into 1,824,000 shares of Common Stock, including Stock Call Options exercisable into 768,000 shares of Common Stock through Liverpool, constituting 1.8% of the shares of Common Stock outstanding.

As of the date hereof, Elliott International beneficially owned 11,696,000 shares of Common Stock, including (i) 6,120,000 shares of Common Stock underlying Physical Derivative Agreements that

Elliott International may be deemed to beneficially own upon satisfaction of certain conditions and (ii) Stock Call Options exercisable into 2,176,000 shares of Common Stock, constituting 3.3% of the shares of Common Stock outstanding. EICA, as the investment manager of Elliott International may be deemed to beneficially own the 11,696,000 shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by Elliott International, constituting 3.3% of the shares of Common Stock outstanding.

(b) Elliott has the power to vote or direct the vote of, and to dispose or direct the disposition of the shares of Common Stock owned directly by it.

Elliott International has the shared power with EICA to vote or direct the vote of, and to dispose or direct the disposition of, the shares of Common Stock owned directly by Elliott International.

Information regarding each of Elliott International and EICA is set forth in Item 2 of this Schedule 13D and is expressly incorporated by reference herein.

(c) The transactions effected by the Reporting Persons during the past 60 days are set forth on Schedule 1 attached hereto.

(d) No person other than Elliott has the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by Elliott.

No person other than Elliott International and EICA has the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by Elliott International and EICA.

(e) Not applicable.

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**CONTRACTS,  
ARRANGEMENTS,  
UNDERSTANDINGS**

**Item 6. OR RELATIONSHIPS  
WITH RESPECT TO  
SECURITIES OF THE  
ISSUER**

Elliott, through Liverpool, and Elliott International have entered into notional principal amount derivative agreements in the form of physically settled swaps (the "Physical Derivative Agreements") with respect to 2,880,000 and 6,120,000 shares of Common Stock of the Issuer, respectively, that the Reporting Persons may be deemed to beneficially own upon satisfaction of certain conditions. Collectively, the Physical Derivative Agreements held by the Reporting Persons represent economic exposure comparable to an interest in approximately 2.5% of the shares of Common Stock. The counterparties to the Physical Derivative Agreements are unaffiliated third party financial institutions. In addition, Elliott (directly and through Liverpool) and Elliott International have entered into 18,240 and 21,760 option contracts, respectively, with unaffiliated third party financial institutions which are exercisable by Elliott and Elliott International into 1,824,000 and 2,176,000 shares of Common Stock, respectively (the "Stock Call Options"). The Stock Call Options have strike prices ranging from \$24 to \$25. The Stock Call Options have an expiration date of January 18, 2019. Collectively, the Stock

Call Options held by the Reporting Persons represent economic exposure comparable to an interest in approximately 1.1% of the shares of Common Stock.

Elliott, through Liverpool, and Elliott International have entered into notional principal amount derivative agreements in the form of cash settled swaps (the "Cash Derivative Agreements") with respect to 3,520,000 and 7,480,000 shares of Common Stock of the Issuer, respectively (representing economic exposure comparable to 1.0% and 2.1% of the shares of Common Stock of the Issuer, respectively). Collectively, the Cash Derivative Agreements held by the Reporting Persons represent economic exposure comparable to an interest in approximately 3.1% of the shares of Common Stock. The Cash Derivative Agreements provide Elliott and Elliott International with economic results that are comparable to the economic results of ownership but do not provide them with the power to vote or direct the voting or dispose of or direct the disposition of the shares that are referenced in the Cash Derivative Agreements (such shares, the "Subject Shares"). The Reporting Persons disclaim beneficial ownership in the Subject Shares. The counterparties to the Cash Derivative Agreements are unaffiliated third party financial institutions. In addition, Elliott, through Liverpool, and Elliott International have entered into 3,200 and 6,800 option contracts, respectively, with unaffiliated third party financial institutions

which are exercisable by Elliott and Elliott International into Cash Derivative Agreements (the "Swap Call Options"). The Swap Call Options have a strike price of \$26 and an expiration date of January 18, 2019. Collectively, the Cash Derivative Agreements and Swap Call Options held by the Reporting Persons represent economic exposure comparable to an interest in approximately 3.4% of the shares of Common Stock.

On August 13, 2018 Elliott, Elliott International and EICA entered into a Joint Filing Agreement (the "Joint Filing Agreement") in which the parties agreed to the joint filing on behalf of each of them of statements on Schedule 13D with respect to the securities of the Issuer to the extent required by applicable law. The Joint Filing Agreement is attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and is incorporated herein by reference.

Except as described above in this Item 6, none of the Reporting Persons has any contracts, arrangements, understandings or relationships with respect to the securities of the Issuer.

## **Item 7. EXHIBIT**

### **Exhibit Description**

Exhibit 99.1: Joint Filing Agreement

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**SIGNATURES**

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of his or its knowledge and belief, each of the undersigned certifies that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

DATE: August 13, 2018

ELLIOTT ASSOCIATES, L.P.

By: Elliott Capital Advisors, L.P., as General Partner

By: Braxton Associates, Inc., as General Partner

/s/ Elliot Greenberg

Name: Elliot Greenberg

Title: Vice President

ELLIOTT INTERNATIONAL, L.P.

By: Elliott International Capital Advisors Inc., as Attorney-in-Fact

/s/ Elliot Greenberg

Name: Elliot Greenberg

Title: Vice President

ELLIOTT INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL ADVISORS INC.

/s/ Elliot Greenberg

Name: Elliot Greenberg

Title: Vice President



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**SCHEDULE 1**

**Transactions of the Reporting Persons Effected During the Past 60 Days**

The following transactions were effected directly by Elliott Associates, L.P. in the shares of Common Stock during the past 60 days:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Security</u>	<u>Amount of Shs.</u> <u>Bought / (Sold)</u>	<u>Approx. price (€)</u> <u>per Share</u>
07/26/2018	Common Stock	1,599,024	22.4097
07/26/2018	Common Stock	976	21.5400

The following transactions were effected by Elliott International, L.P. in the shares of Common Stock during the past 60 days:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Security</u>	<u>Amount of Shs.</u> <u>Bought / (Sold)</u>	<u>Approx. price (€)</u> <u>per Share</u>
07/26/2018	Common Stock	2,075	21.5400
07/26/2018	Common Stock	3,397,925	22.4097