

ERICSSON LM TELEPHONE CO
Form 6-K
December 08, 2017

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN ISSUER

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16

of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

December 8, 2017

Commission File Number

000-12033

LM ERICSSON TELEPHONE COMPANY

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

Torshamnsgatan 21, Kista

SE-164 83, Stockholm, Sweden

(Address of principal executive offices)

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

Form 20-F

Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

Announcement of LM Ericsson Telephone Company, December 8, 2017 regarding Restated segment financials published and impairment testing begins .

SIGNATURES

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

TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET LM ERICSSON (publ)

By: /s/ NINA MACPHERSON
Nina Macpherson

Senior Vice President & Chief Legal Officer

By: /s/ HELENA NORRMAN
Helena Norrman

Senior Vice President

Corporate Marketing & Communications Officer

Date: **December 8, 2017**

PRESS RELEASE

DECEMBER 8, 2017

Restated segment financials published and impairment testing begins

Restated financials for new segments for 2015 – 2017 is now published as reporting structure is changed as of Q4 2017

Following the restated financials, goodwill re-allocation and impairment testing will now begin and be completed in the Q4 closing. The outcome will be communicated before the Q4 report.

Conference call with CFO Carl Mellander for financial analysts, investors and journalists begins at 15:00 CET, December 8, 2017

Restated segment financials

As announced in April 2017, Ericsson (NASDAQ: ERIC) will start to report financials according to its new segments as of the fourth quarter 2017. To facilitate year-on-year comparisons, Ericsson today discloses the restated financials for full year 2015, each quarter of 2016 and the three first quarters of 2017.

The four segments reported are:

Networks Radio and transport solutions with supporting services, based on industry standards and offered via scalable modular platforms. The portfolio enables customers to evolve their telecom networks across generations to 5G – including new use cases, such as, public safety, IoT, and fixed wireless access.

Digital Services Products and services providing solutions for our customers’ digital transformation journeys across the support systems BSS and OSS, Telecom Core, and IT Cloud domains through a combination of products, technology and expertise in networks, software, cloud, and business processes.

Managed Services Services are offered in three main areas: Networks, IT, and Network Design & Optimization. Managed services for networks range from hands-on field service operations to remote network operations. IT managed services include the management of applications and data centers, while network design & optimization services evolve and expand customer networks to meet ever-changing demands from consumers and business users.

Other Products and services that enable content owners, broadcasters, TV service providers and network operators to efficiently deliver, manage and monetize new TV experiences. In addition, segment Other includes iconectiv and emerging business such as Internet of Things and Unified Delivery Network (UDN).

PRESS RELEASE

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Financial disclosures for each segment remain the same as earlier and include:

Net Sales

Gross income and gross margin

Operating income and operating margin

EBITA and EBITA margin

Restructuring charges

Net Sales for segments Networks and Digital Services include a breakdown of sales into products, services and IPR licensing revenues. The split of IPR licensing revenues will be 82% to Networks and 18% to Digital Services.

There is no change in the geographical structure. Net sales will continue to be reported in five geographic Market Areas and Market Area Other.

Overview of restated financials:

Net sales SEK million	2017 Q1	Q3	2016	2015
Networks	91,781	140,984	157,791	
Digital Services	28,116	45,298	49,443	
Managed Services	18,309	27,501	30,597	
Other	5,898	8,825	9,089	
Total	144,104	222,608	246,920	

Operating income, reported SEK million	2017 Q1	Q3	2016	2015
Networks	6,017	17,570	28,290	
Digital Services	-15,232	-6,663	-3,389	
Managed Services	-2,972	-507	-19	
Other	-6,183	-4,101	-3,077	
Total	-18,370	6,299	21,805	

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Operating income, adjusted* SEK million	2017 Q1	Q3	2016	2015
Networks	12,992	20,983	31,055	
Digital Services	-6,854	-3,487	-1,514	
Managed Services	-752	-125	219	
Other	-4,052	-3,505	-2,915	
Total	1,334	13,866	26,845	

* The numbers exclude restructuring charges and are adjusted for certain other items affecting comparability in 2017
Goodwill and acquisition-related intangible assets

Goodwill and acquisition-related intangible assets amounted to approximately SEK 45 b. in the balance sheet per Q3 2017. In the previous segment structure, SEK 24.7 b. is related to Networks, SEK 11.6 b. to IT & Cloud, and SEK 8.6 b. to Other.

As the restatement of the profit and loss accounts per segment is now finalized, Ericsson is together with the auditors starting the process to allocate goodwill and intangibles to segments. Thereafter the required impairment testing will be conducted, based on the strategy and business plans presented at the Capital Markets Day on November 8, 2017. The impairment test outcome will be announced shortly after the Q4 closing, before the Q4 earnings report.

A preliminary indication is that impairment may be required in segments Digital Services and Other, but not in segments Networks or Managed Services. An impairment would not impact cash flow but operating income and equity. Also, an impairment is not an indication of the performance of the business in the quarter. Our gross and net cash positions are strong, and will not be impacted by a potential impairment.

Find the complete tables of restated financials at www.ericsson.com/investors.

CONFERENCE CALL FOR ANALYSTS, INVESTORS, AND JOURNALISTS

A conference call for financial analysts, investors and journalists will begin at 15:00 CET on December 8.

CFO Carl Mellander will comment on the restated financials and take questions. To join the conference call, please call one of the following numbers:

SE Toll Number: +46 (0)856642662 (Toll-Free Sweden: 0200883817)

International/UK Toll Number: +44 (0)2030089801 (Toll-Free UK: 08082370059)

US Toll Number: +1 6465025116 (Toll-Free US: +1 8557532235)

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Please call in at least 15 minutes before the conference call begins. As there is usually a large number of callers, it may take some time before you are connected.

A live audio webcast of the conference call will be available at: www.ericsson.com/investors and at: www.ericsson.com/press

REPLAY:

A replay of the conference call will be available from about one hour after it has ended until December 15, 2017.

Sweden replay number: +46 8 5664 2638

International replay number: +44 20 3426 2807

Conference Number: 693556#

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

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Ericsson is a world leader in communications technology and services with headquarters in Stockholm, Sweden. Our organization consists of more than 111,000 experts who provide customers in 180 countries with innovative solutions and services. Together we are building a more connected future where anyone and any industry is empowered to reach their full potential. Net sales in 2016 were SEK 222.6 billion (USD 24.5 billion). The Ericsson stock is listed on Nasdaq Stockholm and on NASDAQ in New York. Read more on www.ericsson.com.

This information is information that Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson is obliged to make public pursuant to the EU Market Abuse Regulation. The information was submitted for publication, through the agency of the contact person set out above, at 08:30 CET on December 8, 2017.