

MER TELEMAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD  
Form 20-F  
June 25, 2004

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, 2003

OR

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number: 0-28950

MER TELEMAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD.  
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter  
and translation of Registrant's name into English)

Israel  
(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

22 Zarhin Street, Ra'anana 43662, Israel  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:  
None

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:  
Ordinary Shares, NIS 0.01 Par Value  
(Title of Class)

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d)  
of the Act: None

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:

Ordinary Shares, par value NIS 0.01 per share ..... 4,624,471  
(as of December 31, 2003)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) 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 (2) has been subject to such filing  
requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

Indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow:

Item 17  Item 18

This Report on Form 20-F is incorporated by reference into our Form F-3 Registration Statement File No. 333-11644 and into our Form S-8 Registration Statement File No. 333-12014.

### INTRODUCTION

Mer Telemanagement Solutions Ltd. designs, develops, markets and supports a comprehensive line of telecommunication management solutions that enable business organizations and other enterprises to improve the efficiency and performance of their IP operations and to significantly reduce associated costs. Our products include call accounting and management products, facility management solutions, fault management systems and Web-based management solutions for converged voice, voice over Internet Protocol, or IP, data and video. These products are designed to provide telecommunication and information technology managers with tools to reduce communication costs, recover charges payable by third parties, detect and report the abuse and misuse of telephone networks, monitor and detect hardware and software faults in telecommunications networks and generate telecommunications usage information for use in the management of an enterprise. We were among the first to offer PC-based call accounting systems when we introduced our TABS product in 1985. To date, over 60,000 TABS call accounting systems have been sold to end-users in more than 60 countries.

Since our public offering in May 1997, our ordinary shares have been listed on the Nasdaq Stock Market (symbol: MTSI). As used in this annual report, the terms "we," "us" and "our" mean Mer Telemanagement Solutions Ltd. and its subsidiaries, unless otherwise indicated.

Except for the historical information contained in this annual report, the statements contained in this annual report are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, as amended, with respect to our business, financial condition and results of operations. Such forward-looking statements reflect our current view with respect to future events and financial results. We urge you to consider that statements which use the terms "anticipate," "believe," "do not believe," "expect," "plan," "intend," "estimate," "anticipate" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. We remind readers that forward-looking statements are merely predictions and therefore inherently subject to uncertainties and other factors and involve known and unknown risks that could cause the actual results, performance, levels of activity, or our achievements, or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, performance, levels of activity, or our achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. Except as required by applicable law, including the securities laws of the United States, we undertake no obligation to publicly release any update or revision to any forward-looking statements to reflect new information, future events or circumstances, or otherwise after the date hereof. We have attempted to identify significant uncertainties and other factors affecting forward-looking statements in the Risk Factors section that appears in Item 3D. "Key Information - Risk Factors"

TABS by MER (R), TABS.IT(TM), eTABS(TM), VoIPTABS(TM), wTABS(TM),

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

FaciliTRAK(TM), TABSbill(TM), TOPS(TM) and PMSi(TM) are our trademarks. All other trademarks and trade names appearing in this annual report are owned by their respective holders.

Our consolidated financial statements appearing in this annual report are prepared in U.S. dollars and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, or U.S.

i

GAAP. All references in this annual report to "dollars" or "\$" are to U.S. dollars and all references in this annual report to "NIS" are to New Israeli Shekels.

Statements made in this annual report concerning the contents of any contract, agreement or other document are summaries of such contracts, agreements or documents and are not complete descriptions of all of their terms. If we filed any of these documents as an exhibit to this annual report or to any registration statement or annual report that we previously filed, you may read the document itself for a complete description of its terms.

ii

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
	----
PART I.....	5
ITEM 1. IDENTITY OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND ADVISERS.....	5
ITEM 2. OFFER STATISTICS AND EXPECTED TIMETABLE.....	5
ITEM 3. KEY INFORMATION.....	5
A. Selected Financial Data.....	5
B. Capitalization and Indebtedness.....	6
C. Reasons for the Offer and Use of Proceeds.....	6
D. Risk Factors.....	6
ITEM 4. INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY.....	17
A. History and Development of the Company.....	17
B. Business Overview.....	19
C. Organizational Structure.....	27
D. Property, Plants and Equipment.....	28
ITEM 5. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS.....	28
B. Liquidity and Capital Resources.....	39
C. Research and Development.....	40
D. Trend Information.....	41
E. Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements.....	41
F. Tabular Disclosure of Contractual Obligations.....	41
ITEM 6. DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES.....	41
A. Directors and Senior Management.....	41

Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

	B. Compensation.....	43
	C. Board Practices.....	44
	D. Employees.....	49
	E. Share Ownership.....	50
ITEM 7.	MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS.....	53
	A. Major Shareholders.....	53
	B. Related Party Transactions.....	54
	C. Interests of Experts and Counsel.....	55
ITEM 8.	FINANCIAL INFORMATION.....	55
	A. Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information.....	55
	B. Significant Changes.....	56
ITEM 9.	THE OFFER AND LISTING.....	56
	A. Offer and Listing Details.....	56
	B. Plan of Distribution.....	57
	C. Markets.....	57
	D. Selling Shareholders.....	57
	E. Dilution.....	57
	F. Expense of the Issue.....	57
ITEM 10.	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.....	57
	A. Share Capital.....	57
	B. Memorandum and Articles of Association.....	57

iii

	C. Material Contracts.....	60
	D. Exchange Controls.....	60
	E. Taxation.....	61
	F. Dividend and Paying Agents.....	72
	G. Statement by Experts.....	72
	H. Documents on Display.....	72
	I. Subsidiary Information.....	72
ITEM 11.	QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISKS.....	73
ITEM 12.	DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES OTHER THAN EQUITY SECURITIES.....	73
PART II.....		73
ITEM 13.	DEFAULTS, DIVIDEND ARREARAGES AND DELINQUENCIES.....	73
ITEM 14.	MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE RIGHTS OF SECURITY HOLDERS AND USE OF PROCEEDS.....	73
ITEM 15.	CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.....	74
ITEM 16.	[RESERVED].....	74
ITEM 16A.	AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT.....	74
ITEM 16B.	CODE OF ETHICS.....	74
ITEM 16C.	PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES.....	74
ITEM 16D.	EXEMPTIONS FROM THE LISTING REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR AUDIT COMMITTEE.....	75
ITEM 16E.	PURCHASE OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY THE ISSUER AND AFFILIATES AND PURCHASERS.....	75
PART III.....		77
ITEM 17.	FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.....	77
ITEM 18.	FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.....	77
ITEM 19.	EXHIBITS.....	77
S I G N A T U R E S.....		79

PART I

ITEM 1. IDENTITY OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND ADVISERS  
-----

Not applicable.

ITEM 2. OFFER STATISTICS AND EXPECTED TIMETABLE  
-----

Not applicable.

ITEM 3. KEY INFORMATION  
-----

A. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following selected consolidated financial data for and as of the five years ended December 31, 2003 are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Our consolidated financial statements were audited by Kost Forer Gabbay & Kasierer, a Member of Ernst & Young Global. Our audited consolidated financial statements with respect to the three years ended December 31, 2003 and as of December 31, 2002 and 2003 appear elsewhere in this Report. The selected consolidated financial data set forth below should be read in conjunction with Item 5. "Operating and Financial Review and Prospects," and our consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included elsewhere in this annual report.

Statement of Operations Data:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(in thousands, except per share data)				
Revenues.....	\$12,780	\$11,067	\$10,725	\$9,787	\$9,230
Cost of revenues.....	3,137	2,842	2,552	1,896	1,849
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Gross profit.....	9,643	8,225	8,173	7,891	7,381
Selling and marketing, net.....	4,186	4,853	4,911	3,954	3,916
Research and development, net.....	3,491	4,039	3,562	2,127	1,825
General and administrative.....	1,593	1,845	1,943	1,858	1,830
In process research and development write-off .....	--	945	--	--	--
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Operating income (loss).....	373	(3,457)	(2,243)	(48)	(190)
Financial income, net.....	35	374	138	134	124
Other income (expenses).....	5,150	1,591	(654)	(140)	6
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Income (loss) before taxes.....	5,558	(1,492)	(2,759)	(54)	(60)

Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

Taxes on income (tax benefit).....	1,277	(155)	16	52	198
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net income (loss) before equity in earnings of affiliates and minority interest.....	4,281	(1,337)	(2,775)	(106)	(258)
Equity in earnings of affiliates...	211	66	221	236	345
Minority interest in a subsidiary....	--	--	--	--	--
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net income (loss).....	\$4,492	\$ (1,271)	\$ (2,554)	\$ 130	\$ 87
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Basic net earnings (loss) per share..	\$0.96	\$ (0.26)	\$ (0.53)	\$0.03	\$0.02
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Diluted net earnings (loss) per share	\$0.94	\$ (0.26)	\$ (0.53)	\$0.03	\$0.02
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

5

Balance Sheet Data:

	As of December 31,				
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
	----	----	----	----	----
Working capital.....	\$ 13,701	\$ 10,342	\$ 9,060	\$ 9,244	\$ 9,437
Total assets.....	21,615	21,812	18,095	17,707	18,182
Long-term loans.....	8	84	13	8	--
Shareholders' equity.....	17,557	16,497	13,856	14,013	14,464

B. CAPITALIZATION AND INDEBTEDNESS

Not applicable.

C. REASONS FOR THE OFFER AND USE OF PROCEEDS

Not applicable.

D. RISK FACTORS

Investing in our ordinary shares involves a high degree of risk and uncertainty. You should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below before investing in our ordinary shares. If any of the following risks actually occurs, our business, prospects, financial condition and results of operations could be harmed. In that case, the value of our ordinary shares could decline, and you could lose all or part of your investment.

Risks Relating to Our Business and Market

We have had a recent history of operating losses and may not achieve or sustain profitability in the future.

We have incurred operating losses in each of the four last fiscal years and we cannot assure you that we will be able to achieve or sustain profitable operations in the future.

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

Our operating results fluctuate significantly.

Our quarterly results have fluctuated significantly in the past and are likely to fluctuate significantly in the future. Our future operating results will depend on many factors, including, but not limited to the following:

- o demand for our products;
- o changes in our pricing policies or those of our competitors;
- o the number, timing and significance of product enhancements;
- o new product announcements by us and our competitors;
- o our ability to develop, introduce and market new and enhanced products on a timely basis;
- o changes in the level of our operating expenses;

6

- o budgeting cycles of our customers;
- o customer order deferrals in anticipation of enhancements or new products that we or our competitors offer;
- o product life cycles;
- o changes in our strategy;
- o seasonal trends and general domestic and international economic and political conditions, among others; and
- o currency exchange rate fluctuations and economic conditions in the geographic areas where we operate.

Due to the foregoing factors, quarterly revenues and operating results are difficult to forecast, and it is likely that our future operating results will be adversely affected by these or other factors.

Revenues are also difficult to forecast because the market for telecommunication management solutions is rapidly evolving and our sales cycle, from initial evaluation to purchase, is lengthy and varies substantially from customer to customer. We typically ship product orders shortly after receipt of a purchase order and, consequently, order backlog at the beginning of any quarter has in the past represented only a small portion of that quarter's revenues. As a result, license revenues in any quarter depend substantially on orders booked and shipped in that quarter.

Due to all of the foregoing, we cannot predict revenues for any future quarter with any significant degree of accuracy. Accordingly, we believe that period-to-period comparisons of our operating results are not necessarily meaningful and you should not rely upon them as indications of future performance. Although we have experienced revenue growth in the past, we may not be able to sustain this growth rate, and you should not consider such past growth indicative of future revenue growth, or of future operating results.

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

Our operating results vary quarterly and seasonally.

We have often recognized a substantial portion of our revenues in the last quarter of the year and in the last month, or even weeks or days, of a quarter. Our expense levels are substantially based on our expectations for future revenues and are therefore relatively fixed in the short term. If revenue levels fall below expectations, our quarterly results are likely to be disproportionately adversely affected because a proportionately smaller amount of our expenses varies with our revenues.

Our operating results reflect seasonal trends and we expect to continue to be affected by such trends in the future. We expect to continue to experience relatively higher sales in the fourth quarter ending December 31, and relatively lower sales in the third quarter ending September 30, as a result of reduced sales activity in Europe during the summer months. Due to the foregoing factors, in some future quarter, our operating results may be below the expectations

7

of public market analysts and investors. In such event, it is likely that the price of our ordinary shares would be materially and adversely affected.

We depend on the market for telemanagement products, which market has declined in recent years.

We have derived substantially all of our revenues and expect to continue to derive the vast majority of our revenues in the foreseeable future from sales of our TABS.IT call accounting and billing products. Our future financial performance will depend, in significant part, on the successful development, introduction, marketing and customer acceptance of the new versions of TABS.IT and related telemanagement products. Our revenues have declined each year since 1999 and there can be no assurance that the market for these products will grow in the future. If the market for TABS.IT and related telemanagement products fails to return to previous levels, or grows more slowly than we currently anticipate, our business, operating results and financial condition would be materially and adversely affected.

We depend on business telephone system manufacturers, vendors and distributors for our sales.

One of the primary distribution channels for our call accounting management products are PBX original equipment manufacturers, or OEMs, and vendors who market our products to end-users in conjunction with their own products. Sales by PBX manufacturers and vendors have declined markedly in the recent past, and no assurance can be given that sales through this channel will recover. Our success will be dependent to a substantial degree on the marketing and sales efforts of such third parties in marketing products integrating our products. There can be no assurance that these customers will give priority to the sale of our products as an enhancement to their products. Although most of the major business telephone switching systems manufacturers and vendors currently rely on third-party suppliers to provide call accounting and other telemanagement products, no assurance can be given that these manufacturers and vendors, including our current customers, will not develop their own competing products or purchase competing products from others.

We are highly dependent upon the active marketing and distribution efforts of our PBX OEM's. In 2001, 2002 and 2003, our three major OEMs, Siemens Gmbh, Philips Communications Systems B.V. and Ericsson, generated 44.0%, 46.0%

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

and 51.0% of our consolidated revenues respectively. The percentage of sales attributable to each of these OEMs in each of the three years ended December 31, 2003 follows:

	2001	2002	2003
	----	----	----
Siemens.....	32.0%	36.0%	40.0%
Philips.....	8.0%	6.0%	7.0%
Ericsson.....	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%

Because we sell our products through local master distributors in countries where we do not have a marketing subsidiary, we are highly dependent upon the active marketing and distribution efforts of our distributors. We also depend in large part upon our distributors for product maintenance and support. There can be no assurance that our distributors will continue to provide adequate maintenance and support to end-users or will provide maintenance and support for new products, which might cause us to seek new or additional distributors or incur

8

additional service and support costs. The distributors to whom we sell our products are generally not contractually required to make future purchases of our products and could, therefore, discontinue carrying our products at any time. None of our distributors or resellers are subject to any minimum purchase requirements under their agreements with us. There can be no assurance that we will continue our relationships with our OEM customers or, if such relationships are not maintained, that we would be able to attract and retain comparable PBX original equipment manufacturers. Although we have distribution agreements with a number of our resellers, we do not have any agreements with the PBX manufacturers who market our products. The loss of any of our major resellers, either to competitive products offered by other companies or products developed by such resellers, would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. Our future performance will depend, in part, on our ability to attract additional PBX manufacturers and vendors that will be able to market and support our products effectively, especially in markets in which we have not previously distributed our products.

We may decide to acquire other businesses in the future, which could result in potentially dilutive issuances, the incurrence of debt and the incurrence of other expenses which could negatively impact our operating results and financial condition.

In April 2000 we acquired IntegraTRAK Inc., a privately held developer and marketer of high-end telemanagement software, and in April 2002 we acquired software technology that we are presently marketing under the name FaciliTRAK. FaciliTRAK is a comprehensive software system that greatly simplifies the day-to-day task of maintaining and managing the physical layer details for any network. If we continue to acquire businesses or products in the future, such acquisitions could result in dilutive issuances of equity securities, the incurrence of debt and contingent liabilities and amortization expenses related to goodwill and other intangible assets, any of which could negatively impact our operating results and financial position. Acquisitions may also involve other risks, including entering markets in which we have limited or no direct prior experience and the potential loss of key employees.

We face risks associated with expanding and maintaining our distribution

network.

We sell our products through distributors, business telephone switching systems manufacturers and vendors, post, telephone and telegraph authorities, or PTTs and our direct sales force. Our ability to achieve revenue growth in the future will depend in large part on our success in establishing and maintaining relationships with business telephone switching systems manufacturers and vendors and PTTs, establishing and maintaining relationships with distributors, and recruiting and training additional direct sales personnel. We plan to invest significant resources to expand our direct sales force and to develop new distribution relationships. Historically, we have at times experienced difficulty in recruiting qualified sales personnel and in establishing effective distribution relationships. There can be no assurance that we will be able to successfully expand our direct sales force or other distribution channels or that any such expansion will result in an increase in revenues. The failure to expand or maintain our direct sales force or other distribution channels could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition.

9

We are subject to risks associated with international operations.

We are based in Israel and generate a large percentage of our sales outside the United States. Our sales in the United States accounted for 61.0%, 66.0% and 53.0% of our total revenues for the years ended December 31, 2001, 2002 and 2003, respectively. Although we continue to expand our international operations and commit significant management time and financial resources to developing direct and indirect international sales and support channels, we cannot be certain that we will be able to maintain or increase international market demand for our products. To the extent that we cannot do so in a timely manner, our business, operating results and financial condition will be materially and adversely affected.

International operations are subject to inherent risks, including the following:

- o the impact of possible recessionary environments in multiple foreign markets;
- o costs of localizing products for foreign markets;
- o longer receivables collection periods and greater difficulty in accounts receivable collection;
- o unexpected changes in regulatory requirements;
- o difficulties and costs of staffing and managing foreign operations;
- o reduced protection for intellectual property rights in some countries;
- o potentially adverse tax consequences; and
- o political and economic instability.

We cannot be certain that we, our distributors or resellers will be able to sustain or increase revenues from international operations or that the

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

foregoing factors will not have a material adverse effect on our future revenues and, as a result, on our business, operating results and financial condition.

We may be adversely affected by fluctuations in currency exchange rates. While our revenues are generally denominated in U.S. dollars and Euros, a significant portion of our expenses are incurred in NIS. We do not currently engage in any currency hedging transactions intended to reduce the effect of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates on our results of operations. If we were to determine that it was in our best interests to enter into any hedging transactions in the future, there can be no assurance that we will be able to do so or that such transactions, if entered into, will materially reduce the effect of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates on our results of operations. In addition, if, for any reason, exchange or price controls or other restrictions on the conversion of foreign currencies into NIS were imposed, our business could be adversely affected. Although exposure to currency fluctuations to date has not had a material adverse effect on our business, there can be no assurance such fluctuations in the future will not have a material adverse effect on revenues from international sales and, consequently, on our business, operating results and financial condition.

10

We are subject to risks relating to proprietary rights and risks of infringement.

We are dependent upon our proprietary software technology and we rely primarily on a combination of copyright and trademark laws, trade secrets, confidentiality procedures and contractual provisions to protect our proprietary rights. We try to protect our software, documentation and other written materials under trade secret and copyright laws, which afford only limited protection. It is possible that others will develop technologies that are similar or superior to our technology. Despite our efforts to protect our proprietary rights, unauthorized parties may attempt to copy aspects of our products or to obtain and use information that we regard as proprietary. It is difficult to police the unauthorized use of our products, and we expect software piracy to be a persistent problem, although we are unable to determine the extent to which piracy of our software products exists. In addition, the laws of some foreign countries do not protect our proprietary rights as fully as do the laws of the United States. We cannot be certain that our means of protecting our proprietary rights in the United States or abroad will be adequate or that our competition will not independently develop similar technology.

We are not aware that we are infringing upon any proprietary rights of third parties. It is possible, however, that third parties will claim infringement by us of their intellectual property rights. We believe that software product developers will increasingly be subject to infringement claims as the number of products and competitors in our industry segment grows and the functionality of products in different industry segments overlaps. It would be time consuming for us to defend any such claims, with or without merit, and any such claims could:

- o result in costly litigation;
- o divert management's attention and resources;
- o cause product shipment delays; or

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

- o require us to enter into royalty or licensing agreements. Such royalty or licensing agreements, if required, may not be available on terms acceptable to us, if at all.

If there is a successful claim of product infringement against us and we are not able to license the infringed or similar technology, our business, operating results and financial condition would be materially and adversely affected.

We rely upon certain software that we license from third parties, including software that we integrate with our internally developed software. We cannot be certain that these third-party software licenses will continue to be available to us on commercially reasonable terms. If we lose or are unable to maintain any such software licenses, we could suffer shipment delays or reductions until equivalent software could be developed, identified, licensed and integrated, which would materially and adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition.

Our results may be adversely affected by competition.

The market for telemanagement products is fragmented and is intensely competitive. Competition in the industry is generally based on product performance, depth of product line, technical support and price. We compete both with international and local competitors

11

(including providers of telecommunications services), many of whom have significantly greater financial, technical and marketing resources than us. We anticipate continuing competition in the telemanagement products market and the entrance of new competitors into the market. Our existing and potential customers, including business telephone switching system manufacturers and vendors, may be able to develop telemanagement products and services that are as effective as, or more effective or easier to use than, those offered by us. Such existing and potential competitors may also enjoy substantial advantages over us in terms of research and development expertise, manufacturing efficiency, name recognition, sales and marketing expertise and distribution channels. There can be no assurance that we will be able to compete successfully against current or future competitors or that competition will not have a material adverse effect on our future revenues and, consequently, on our business, operating results and financial condition.

We are subject to risks associated with rapid technological change and risks associated with new versions and new products.

The telecommunications management market in which we compete is characterized by rapid technological change, introductions of new products, changes in customer demands and evolving industry standards. Our future success will depend upon our ability to keep pace with the technological developments and to timely address the increasingly sophisticated needs of our customers by supporting existing and new telecommunication technologies and services and by developing and introducing enhancements to our current and new products. There can be no assurance that we will be successful in developing and marketing enhancements to our products that will respond to technological change, evolving industry standards or customer requirements, that we will not experience difficulties that could delay or prevent the successful development, introduction and sale of such enhancements or that such enhancements will adequately meet the requirements of the marketplace and achieve any significant degrees of market acceptance. If release dates of any new products or

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

enhancements are delayed or, if when released, they fail to achieve market acceptance, our business, operating results and financial condition would be materially and adversely affected. In addition, the introduction or announcement of new product offerings or enhancements by us or our competitors may cause customers to defer or forgo purchases of current versions of our product, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition.

We may not be able to retain or attract key managerial, technical and research and development personnel we need to succeed.

Our success has largely depended and will depend in the future on our skilled professional and technical employees, substantially all of whom have written employment agreements. The competition for these employees is intense. We may not be able to retain our present employees, or recruit additional qualified employees as we require them.

Three of our shareholders are in a position to control matters requiring a shareholder vote.

Mr. Chaim Mer, our Chairman, and his wife, Dora Mer, currently control the vote of approximately 44.3% of our outstanding ordinary shares, and Isaac Ben-Bassat, one of our directors, is the owner of 14.8% of our outstanding ordinary shares. As a result, such persons control and will continue to control the election of our entire Board of Directors other than our two outside directors and generally have the ability to direct our business and affairs.

12

We are subject to risks arising from product defects and potential product liability.

We provide free warranty and support for up to one year for end-users and up to eighteen months for our OEM distributors. Our sales agreements typically contain provisions designed to limit our exposure to potential product liability or related claims. The limitation of liability provisions contained in our agreements may not be effective. Our products are used by businesses to reduce communication costs, recover charges payable by third parties and prevent abuse and misuse of telephone networks and, as a result, the sale of products by us may entail the risk of product liability and related claims. A product liability claim brought against us could have a material adverse effect upon our business, operating results and financial condition. Products such as those offered by us may contain undetected errors or failures when first introduced or when new versions are released. Despite our testing and testing by current and potential customers, there can be no assurance that errors will not be found in new products or releases after commencement of commercial shipments. The occurrence of these errors could result in adverse publicity, loss of or delay in market acceptance or claims by customers against us, any of which could have a material adverse effect upon our business, operating results and financial condition.

### Risk Factors Related to Our Ordinary Shares

Holders of our ordinary shares who are United States residents face income tax risks.

There is a substantial risk that we will be classified as a passive

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

foreign investment company, or PFIC. Our treatment as a PFIC could result in a reduction in the after-tax return to the holders of our ordinary shares and would likely cause a reduction in the value of such shares. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, we will be classified as a PFIC for any taxable year in which either (i) 75% or more of our gross income is passive income, or (ii) at least 50% of the average value of all of our assets for the taxable year produce or are held for the production of passive income. For this purpose, passive income includes dividends, interest, royalties, rents, annuities and the excess of gains over losses from the disposition of assets which produce passive income. If we were determined to be a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes, highly complex rules would apply to U.S. holders owning our ordinary shares. Accordingly, you are urged to consult your tax advisors regarding the application of such rules.

As a result of our substantial cash position and the decline in the value of our stock, there is a substantial risk that we will be classified as a PFIC under the asset test described in the preceding paragraph. However, because the determination of whether we are a PFIC is based upon the composition of our income and assets from time to time, this determination can not be made with certainty until the end of the calendar year.

Based on studies performed by an independent consultant, we believe that we were not a PFIC in the years 2001, 2002, or 2003.

U.S. residents should carefully read "Item 10E. Additional Information - Taxation - United States Federal Income Tax Consequences" for a more complete discussion of the U.S. federal income tax risks related to owning and disposing of our ordinary shares.

13

Our share price has been volatile in the past and may decline in the future.

Our ordinary shares have experienced significant market price and volume fluctuations in the past and may experience significant market price and volume fluctuations in the future in response to factors such as the following, some of which are beyond our control:

- o quarterly variations in our operating results;
- o operating results that vary from the expectations of securities analysts and investors;
- o changes in expectations as to our future financial performance, including financial estimates by securities analysts and investors;
- o announcements of technological innovations or new products by us or our competitors;
- o announcements by us or our competitors of significant contracts, acquisitions, strategic partnerships, joint ventures or capital commitments;
- o changes in the status of our intellectual property rights;
- o announcements by third parties of significant claims or proceedings against us;

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

- o additions or departures of key personnel;
- o future sales of our ordinary shares; and
- o stock market price and volume fluctuations.

Domestic and international stock markets often experience extreme price and volume fluctuations. Market fluctuations, as well as general political and economic conditions, such as a recession or interest rate or currency rate fluctuations or political events or hostilities in or surrounding Israel, could adversely affect the market price of our ordinary shares.

In the past, securities class action litigation has often been brought against a company following periods of volatility in the market price of its securities. We may in the future be the target of similar litigation. Securities litigation could result in substantial costs and divert management's attention and resources.

We do not expect to distribute cash dividends.

We do not anticipate paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Our Board of Directors will decide whether to declare any cash dividends in the future based on the conditions then existing, including our earnings and financial condition. According to the Israeli Companies Law, a company may distribute dividends out of its profits, so long as the company reasonably believes that such dividend distribution will not prevent the company from paying all its current and future debts. Profits, for purposes of the Companies Law, means the greater of retained earnings or earnings accumulated during the preceding two years.

14

### Risks Relating to Operations in Israel

Conducting business in Israel entails special risks.

We are incorporated under the laws of, and our executive offices and research and development facilities are located in, the State of Israel. Although most of our sales are made to customers outside Israel, we are directly influenced by the political, economic and military conditions affecting Israel. Specifically, we could be adversely affected by any major hostilities involving Israel, a full or partial mobilization of the reserve forces of the Israeli army, the interruption or curtailment of trade between Israel and its present trading partners, or a significant downturn in the economic or financial condition of Israel.

Since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, a number of armed conflicts have taken place between Israel and its Arab neighbors, and a state of hostility, varying from time to time in intensity and degree, has led to security and economic problems for Israel. Since September 2000, there has been a marked increase in violence, civil unrest and hostility, including armed clashes, between the State of Israel and the Palestinians, and acts of terror have been committed inside Israel and against Israeli targets in the West Bank and Gaza. There is no indication as to how long the current hostilities will last or whether there will be any further escalation. Any further escalation in these hostilities or any future armed conflict, political instability or

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

violence in the region may have a negative effect on our business condition, harm our results of operations and adversely affect our share price. Furthermore, there are a number of countries that restrict business with Israel or Israeli companies. Restrictive laws or policies of those countries directed towards Israel or Israeli businesses may have an adverse impact on our operations, our financial results or the expansion of our business.

Our results of operations may be negatively affected by the obligation of our personnel to perform military service.

Many of our directors, officers and employees are obligated to perform up to 36 days, depending on rank and position, of military reserve duty annually and are subject to being called for active duty under emergency circumstances. If a military conflict or war arises, these individuals could be required to serve in the military for extended periods of time. Our operations could be disrupted by the absence for a significant period of one or more of our executive officers or key employees or a significant number of other employees due to military service. Any disruption in our operations could adversely affect our business.

Economic conditions in Israel.

In recent years Israel has been going through a period of recession in economic activity, resulting in low growth rates and growing unemployment. Our operations could be adversely affected if the economic conditions in Israel continue to deteriorate. In addition, due to significant economic measures proposed by the Israeli Government, there have been several general strikes and work stoppages in 2003 and 2004, affecting banks, airports and ports. These strikes have had an adverse effect on the Israeli economy and on business, including our ability to deliver products to our customers. Following the passage by the Israeli Parliament of laws to implement the economic measures, the Israeli trade unions have threatened further strikes or work-stoppages, and these may have a material adverse effect on the Israeli economy and on us.

15

Our financial results may be adversely affected by inflation and currency fluctuations.

Since we report our financial results in dollars, fluctuations in rates of exchange between the dollar and non-dollar currencies may affect our results of operations. The majority of our expenses are paid in NIS (primarily salaries) and are influenced by the timing of, and the extent to which, any increase in the rate of inflation in Israel over the rate of inflation in the United States is not offset by the devaluation of the NIS in relation to the dollar. We believe that the rate of inflation in Israel has not had a material adverse effect on our business to date. However, our dollar costs in Israel will increase if inflation in Israel exceeds the devaluation of the NIS against the dollar or if the timing of such devaluation lags behind inflation in Israel. Over time, the NIS has been devalued against the dollar, generally reflecting inflation rate differentials. In 1999 and 2000, while the rate of inflation was low and in 2003 when there was a negative rate of inflation, there was a devaluation of the dollar against the NIS. In the years 2001 and 2002, and in 2003 when there was a negative rate of inflation, the rate of devaluation of the NIS against the dollar exceeded the rate of inflation. We cannot predict any future trends in the rate of inflation in Israel or the rate of devaluation of the NIS against the dollar. If the dollar cost of our operations in Israel

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

increases, our dollar measured results of operations will be adversely affected. Likewise, our operations could be adversely affected if we are unable to guard against currency fluctuations in the future.

The government programs and tax benefits we currently participate in or receive require us to meet several conditions and may be terminated or reduced in the future.

We have benefited from certain Israeli Government grants, programs and tax benefits. To remain eligible for these grants, programs and tax benefits, we must comply with certain conditions, including making specified investments in fixed assets from our own equity and paying royalties with respect to grants received. In addition, some of these programs restrict our ability to manufacture particular products and to transfer particular technology outside of Israel. If we do not meet these conditions in the future, the benefits we received could be canceled and we may have to refund payments previously received under these programs or pay increased taxes. The Government of Israel has reduced the benefits available under these programs in recent years and these programs and tax benefits may be discontinued or curtailed in the future. We do not expect to receive any grants during 2004 or 2005.

Service and enforcement of legal process on us and our directors and officers may be difficult to obtain.

Service of process upon our directors and officers and the Israeli experts named herein, most of whom reside outside the United States, may be difficult to obtain within the United States. Furthermore, since substantially all of our assets, most of our directors and officers and the Israeli experts named in this annual report are located outside the United States, any judgment obtained in the United States against us or these individuals or entities may not be collectible within the United States.

There is doubt as to the enforceability of civil liabilities under the Securities Act and the Securities Exchange Act in original actions instituted in Israel. However, subject to certain time limitations and other conditions, Israeli courts may enforce final judgments of United States courts for liquidated amounts in civil matters, including judgments based upon the civil liability provisions of those Acts.

16

Provisions of Israeli law may delay, prevent or make difficult an acquisition of us, which could prevent a change of control and therefore depress the price of our shares.

Provisions of Israeli corporate and tax law may have the effect of delaying, preventing or making more difficult a merger with, or other acquisition of, us. This could cause our ordinary shares to trade at prices below the price for which third parties might be willing to pay to gain control of us. Third parties who are otherwise willing to pay a premium over prevailing market prices to gain control of us may be unable or unwilling to do so because of these provisions of Israeli law.

Your rights and responsibilities as a shareholder will be governed by Israeli law and differ in some respects from the rights and responsibilities of shareholders under U.S. law.

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

We are incorporated under Israeli law. The rights and responsibilities of holders of our ordinary shares are governed by our memorandum of association, our articles of association and by Israeli law. These rights and responsibilities differ in some respects from the rights and responsibilities of shareholders in typical U.S. corporations. In particular, a shareholder of an Israeli company has a duty to act in good faith toward the company and other shareholders and to refrain from abusing his power in the company, including, among other things, in voting at the general meeting of shareholders on certain matters.

### ITEM 4. INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY

-----

#### A. HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMPANY

MER Telemanagement Solutions Ltd. was incorporated under the laws of the State of Israel in December 1995. We are a public limited liability company under the Israeli Companies Law 5739-1999 and operate under such law and associated legislation. Our registered offices and principal place of business are located at 22 Zarhin Street, Ra'anana 43662, Israel, and our telephone number is 972-9-762-1777. Our address on the Internet is [www.mtsint.com](http://www.mtsint.com). The information on our website is not incorporated by reference into this annual report.

We design, develop, market and support a comprehensive line of telecommunication management solutions that enable business organizations and other enterprises to more effectively manage and optimize the use of their communication resources. Our products include call accounting and management products, fault management systems and Web-based management solutions for converged voice, voice over Internet Protocol, or IP, data and video. These products are designed to provide telecommunication and information technology managers with tools to reduce communication costs, recover charges payable by third parties, detect and report the abuse and misuse of telephone networks, monitor and detect hardware and software faults in telecommunications networks and generate telecommunications usage information for use in the management of an enterprise. We were among the first to offer PC-based call accounting systems when we introduced our TABS product in 1985. To date, over 60,000 TABS call accounting systems have been sold to end-users in more than 60 countries.

Call accounting systems afford businesses easy access to complete information on telephone usage, including the dialed number, calling extension, call duration, time of day, destination, trunk line usage, cost of each call and multi-carrier analysis. We started developing the TABS line of call accounting products for the DOS operating system and have upgraded and

17

re-written our call accounting and management systems as the industry and technology advanced providing full compatibility to support the Windows operating systems (3.1, 95, 98, 2000) and most versions of Windows NT. As our sales of TABS were worldwide, we needed to have a flexible and easily updated set of pricing tables to accommodate the different pricing schemes and modes used worldwide and with different carriers. As enterprises expanded and required information from their remote sites, so TABS has expanded to accommodate their needs by providing multi-site solutions and supporting most business telephone switching systems currently available for sale. The solutions are capable of monitoring up to 100,000 extensions. Various modules were developed to service the needs of different vertical markets such as our PMSi module for the hotel industry and a solution for performing tie-line reconciliation for organizations

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

and utilities having multiple PBXs. TRAK-View, our fault management system, provides an enterprise with early warning problem detection and prevention for multi-site and multi-vendor networks including PBXs. In 1998, we introduced IP.TRAK, a Web-based call accounting and management system that was built on the original model and principles of TABSweb(TM). IP.TRAK was designed to harness the power of the Internet for the needs of Information Technology managers through its ability to access reports using a standard Internet browser. We then added additional modules that could collect the information from routers, firewalls and gateways. These additional modules provided tools for a comprehensive communications management system. We were able to collect additional data from files, FTP servers, voice over IP (VoIP) and external buffers. We then merged the functionality of PBX systems and IP networks to provide a unified management solution for multiple communication platforms from different vendors supporting voice, VoIP, video and data communications.

On April 24, 2000, we acquired all of the assets and assumed certain liabilities of IntegraTRAK Inc., a privately held Seattle-based company, engaged in the development and sale of packaged computer software for tracking telephone calls and costs.

In line with our strategic planning, we determined in late 2001 not to promote TRAK-View and IP.TRAK as stand-alone products, but to offer them as part of larger solutions.

In 2001, we developed our Web Access module that provides access and control to the communications usage database, under strict control and privacy, from anywhere on the web. During the second quarter of 2002, we added FaciliTRAK, which is a comprehensive software system that greatly simplifies the day-to-day task of maintaining and managing the physical layer details for any network. FaciliTRAK allows the user to record the equipment, cables, and pathways for the cable plant and define the connectivity and circuit routes. A user can utilize FaciliTRAK to plan and manage the moves and changes within his or her organization with the aid of the self-documenting service desk functions. The FaciliTRAK system is an essential tool for any enterprise that is thinking of implementing a disaster recovery program. We operate in five geographical areas. Our operations in Israel include research and development, sales, marketing and support. Our operations in the United States, Brazil, Europe and Asia include sales, marketing and customer service.

Our strategy is to maintain and enhance our position as a leading supplier in the enterprise communication management market of call accounting, facility management solutions and other management solutions while expanding our product line to address the telemanagement needs of the rapidly converging voice, video and data communication markets.

In July 2000, we sold a 31% interest in Silverbyte, a 50% owned privately held affiliate. We received \$150,000 in consideration from the sale payable in 24 equal monthly payments. In December 2000, we reached an agreement to reschedule the remaining balance of the payments due. According to this agreement, the balance of \$110,000 will be repaid in 19 monthly payments starting April 2002. In April 2002, we reached a new agreement rescheduling the remaining \$85,000 balance to be repaid in 48 monthly payments starting April 2002. We recorded a \$73,000 gain from the sale. Although we continue to hold a 19% interest in Silverbyte, we do not have any representation on its board of directors. Accordingly, our investment in Silverbyte is accounted for according

to the cost method.

B. BUSINESS OVERVIEW

Industry Background

Technological advances and worldwide deregulation and privatization in the telecommunications industry have resulted in the growth of alternative telecommunication services providers, such as cellular companies, competitive access providers, cable companies and data transmission companies. This growth, in conjunction with dramatic improvements in computing and communications technology, including the convergence of telephony systems and computers, or computer telephony integration, has fostered the rapid expansion of communication services and an increase in the volume of voice and data traffic by business organizations. The diversification of services and providers using varied pricing algorithms and the proliferation of domestic and international networks using varied equipment and technologies for different services and modes of transmission has placed new demands on telecommunication and information technology managers and has created the need for sophisticated and flexible telecommunication management solutions. This has created a demand for telemanagement solutions that are capable of supporting multiple sites, switching platforms, languages and currencies, as well as the generation of telecommunications usage information vital to an enterprise's operations.

Telemanagement solutions have evolved from the stand-alone PC-based telephone call accounting and billing systems of the mid-1980's to local area network or LAN-based systems operating in Windows 98/2000/XP and Windows NT environments offering call accounting, fraud detection and fault management solutions for users with complex voice and data networks. Today, the trend is moving more and more to Web-based solutions.

Call accounting products, a fundamental management tool, record, retrieve and process data received from a PBX or other telephone switching system, providing a telecommunications manager with information on telephone usage. This information enables managers to optimize an enterprise's telecommunications resources and reduce communication expenses, typically the second or third highest administrative expense of a business, through cost-tracking and management awareness.

As the trend continues toward enterprises utilizing one infrastructure for both voice and data services, more and more emphasis will be placed on finding efficient solutions to cope with the increasing demand on network resources and for reducing congestion. Enterprises have been required to buy additional communications resources to meet this demand immediately rather than optimizing their existing networks due to the time consuming nature of such projects. IT

managers are constantly trying to justify the ever increasing expenses created by managing the enormous amount of data that is being transmitted through the Internet.

The abuse and misuse of telephone and data networks, either by employees making unauthorized telephone calls or by outside "hackers" who tap into an organization's long distance service has become a major problem for organizations resulting in great losses. Likewise, employees surfing the web for private use during working hours overloads the network, preventing critical tasks from getting through as well as reducing the overall productivity of the

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

enterprise. These losses have led to the development of intelligent toll fraud detection systems that immediately alert or initiate preventive measures upon detecting a suspicious occurrence in network usage traffic.

Organizations with multiple PBXs and providers of maintenance services require systems that are capable of alerting telecommunications managers of impending or actual problems in a communications network. Financial and operational benefits of a fault management system can be immediate and significant, as down time of the system is reduced due to early problem detection and real information on remote site events. Maintenance costs are significantly lowered through better use of human resources and more efficient inventory management.

In addition, other executives and operational managers are now seeking telemagement solutions which permit them to assess how efficiently employees are using their time, monitor customer service calls, analyze the effectiveness of marketing expenditures, utilize toll-free responses to determine demographics of callers through the use of Caller ID information, know who is using the network and when they are using it, and obtain additional data that aid them in management of the business.

IP telephony and video conferencing are reaching technological maturity and are being adopted by an increasing number of organizations. Enterprises have begun to use the IP platform as a single common telecommunication infrastructure for all services. The convergence of voice, data and video has become commonplace, and there is a trend of data equipment manufacturers and PBX system manufacturers offering platforms that support all services. These developments as well as customer demands will require future management systems to be upgraded to support the convergence of voice, data and video and provide a unified management system that will provide information technology managers with knowledge about the usage of their resources, the ability to ensure the optimal use of these resources and centralized control over their networks.

With today's greater mobility, the need to keep track of moves and changes in an organization requires the use of tools to control, manage and document these changes more effectively. The useful life of a standard cabling structure should be fifteen years. This means that existing cables should be able to support an average of three upgrades of communication equipment during its lifetime, plus an average of five changes to all outlets. It is virtually impossible to achieve this performance level without maintaining accurate records reflecting all details of cabling installations.

The continuing increase in use of cellular phones for business, during and outside working hours, has created the need to develop products that will enable an enterprise to generate a true and full record of all the calls made by its employees, including cellular calls and calls made by calling cards and other charge plans.

### Products and Services

We offer a range of call accounting and converged voice/data management solutions, based on our standard platform which can be adjusted to specific customers' needs and requests, as well as fault management systems for networks and PBXs, and facilities management for cabling and equipment. Additionally, some of our products are geared for communications resellers and as such enable

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

them to issue regular bills for the communications services rendered. Today these products and services, starting with the original TABS line, constitute the basic building blocks for adding modules to cater to the new advanced communications infrastructures and services.

### Background History

We were the first to offer a PC-based non-dedicated call accounting system when we introduced the first version of TABS in 1985. To date, over 60,000 TABS accounting systems have been sold to end-users located in over 60 countries. TABS supports worldwide charging methods (pulse and duration), call pricing tables and currencies and is available in different languages. Our PBX interface database includes default formats for the major PBX manufacturers and business phone systems, including those manufactured by Ericsson, Philips, Siemens, Lucent, Nortel, Alcatel, ECI/Tadiran, Harris, NEC, Avaya, Mitel, Damovo, LG and Panasonic, making TABS compatible with substantially all currently available PBX and business phone systems. Our flexible format allows some of the newer equipment such as VoIP PBXs and routers/gateways to be inputted to and reported on TABS. This includes the RADVision and Cisco gateways and gatekeepers.

### Call Accounting and Management Solutions for Enterprises

#### TABS.IT

TABS.IT is a solution for small offices, medium sized businesses, and Fortune 500 enterprises that want to take full control over their communications network. Specific applications enable hotels, shared tenant environments, hospitals, universities and service bureaus to resell communications services to users employing simple, yet efficient mark-up formulas.

TABS.IT tracks the details of all voice communications usage (dialed numbers, call duration, destination, cost of each call, trunk line usage, etc.) and produces accurately priced individual customer bills. In addition, TABS.IT tracks the details of all data communications (IP address, name, number of bytes, bandwidth usage, nodes, etc.) and can produce a relative cost figure. TABS.IT products are able to:

- o Register and track incoming and outgoing, trunk-to-trunk and internal calls, including response time, ring time and Caller ID.
- o Add billing details and cost of calls according to applicable pricing tables, including mark-up calculations by extension and other user-defined categories and rate updates.
- o Perform multi-carrier analysis, providing carrier comparison "what if" reports.

- o Support authorization and account codes.
- o Identify inactive and defective trunks and extensions.
- o Operate in a LAN environment, permitting multi-user and multi-tasking functionality.

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

- o Generate and electronically distribute billing documents, management and verification reports and 3-D color graphs for easy data analysis.

With additional modules, the following optional features are available:

- o Reporting on e-mails (eTABS).
- o Reporting on VoIP (VoIPTABS).
- o Reporting on web browsing (wTABS).
- o Accessing the information over the Internet (Web Access).

These additional modules were developed especially for Internet usage and provide enterprises with the scalability necessary to permit growing enterprise organizations to further extend their ability to monitor and optimize their local networks. With the introduction of Web Access, multiple users now have the ability to access the TABS database and easily generate reports and graphs from any PC that has access to the Internet. With this new module, each authorized user anywhere in the world can browse and review reports containing restricted data, according to his authorization. These reports are created from the TABS database by using a web browser at a remote station. In addition, powerful graphs give the manager an immediate overview of the situation. Both the graphs and reports can be exported to other applications, such as PowerPoint for the graphs or Excel for the reports.

The powerful TABS.IT report generator provides a wide variety of usage reports that are easy to read and understand, yet provide all the information necessary to identify how communications network resources are being utilized. These reports can be generated either as a summary of the call data or complete with all the details necessary to make informed management decisions. Their structural flexibility allows the user to quickly zero in on the specific data of greatest interest. Historical reports may be maintained for an unlimited period of time and can become useful tools for assessing budget needs for the coming months or years. Specific report categories include ring time reports, call breakdown reports, hit parade reports, directory reports, exception reports and trunk reports. In addition, a robust custom reporting feature offers the user an effective means of generating reports that can go far beyond the standard categories. With this feature, the user is able to create reports that can be tailored to meet even the most specific of reporting requirements, and they can be scheduled to run automatically at a prescribed time.

Version 7 of TABS.IT is fully web-based allowing users to see their own call usage on-line from anywhere, and incorporates most of the features that were offered as separate modules in previous versions. This version is easily adapted to companies that have multiple sites, and would want to view the activity from a central site. The administrative functions can also be

22

performed remotely using Internet Explorer. Full security and privacy is assured by use of various levels of password protection.

The WinTRAK family of products is MTS IntegraTrak's telemanagement solution that has been sold in the U.S. market since 1985. After incorporating all the functionality of WinTRAK, we migrated TABS.IT for use in the United States in 2002. Although we are no longer marketing WinTRAK, we continue to support this product.

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

### Facilities Management System

With today's greater mobility, the need to keep track of moves and changes in an organization requires the use of tools to control, manage and document these changes more effectively. In March 2002, we acquired a software product from Total Wire Software Company, Inc., a privately held Florida-based company. The purchase of this software, now marketed as FaciliTRAK, enables us to offer a product that provides tracking of inventory such as telephones, computers and ancillary equipment associated with a user and develop a complete composite report of an enterprise's resources. Additionally, it gives us the ability to provide a full "total information" system to enterprises for controlling and managing the entire physical layer of an organization's voice and data system. The "top of the line" FaciliTRAK product is a full featured, graphic-oriented cable and asset management system, that comes complete with Visio Technical, a CAD interface, and is available in both a single workstation and a multi-user network version. Its unique flexibility allows users to "mirror" complex networks commonly found in large companies, while its enhanced ability allows it to document and design cable plant projects of all sizes.

FaciliTRAK documents and controls the management of the physical layer, device configuration and circuit connectivity for a wide range of network topologies including ethernet, token ring, voice, fiber distributed data interface, etc. that range in size, from just a few hundred nodes to many thousand, and with its universal functionality can be extended to interface with logical network management systems, cable testing and labeling systems, help desk, call accounting, and other facility management tools. Using a flexible and multipurpose database, FaciliTRAK documents the physical characteristics for any network, recording the network, asset, user, device configuration, and exact connections between equipment and cabling. The results are then presented in either a database view, dynamic schematic, or Visio Technical drawing. The schematics generated by those modules are used to show the physical connectivity and logical path of the equipment and cabling connections in the database.

As a multi site system, FaciliTRAK can store information for multiple buildings or campuses and show views by floor, closet and zones. Specific information such as port or pair assignment, network addresses, and circuit connections are easily entered to match the level of detail required.

The FaciliTRAK help desk feature provides both an administrative process and audit trail for recording, scheduling and maintenance changes that need to be made to items and connections in a site. There are three options within service desk: (i) service requests, (ii) trouble tickets, and (iii) work orders. Each provides its own choices and reference numbering for easy tracking and assignment. Both service requests and trouble tickets provide the option of being used globally for the entire organization, regardless of whether the item in service has been

23

recorded in the site database, or used for items within the current site. We intend to migrate to a new facilities management product in late summer 2004.

### Billing Solutions

In 2002 we introduced the TABSBill module for vertical enterprises, such as hospitals, universities, medical clinics and tenant sharing facilities, enabling the enterprises to rapidly generate bills based on usage. TABSBill, which is geared to resellers of billing services, provides for the scheduled reporting and automatic distribution of customer communications bills based on

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

tracking phone calls, e-mail, network usage as well as for one time or recurring charges. The bills can be generated directly from the data collected by TABS, from CDs from the service provider, or from downloaded files of call data. All kinds of communications usage data may be billed. The user can view his bills on-line as TABSBill is web based. The bills can be displayed, printed out or sent by e-mail. There is even provision for the secure payment of the bill on-line.

### Other Modules

An add-on module, Tie Line Reconciliation, or TLR, provides for the accurate costing of calls in a private PBX network by calculating the actual cost of calls routed over private tie lines and assigning charges to the originating extension. The call is resolved into an accurate origination-destination configuration even though the call may pass many "nodes" along the way, with each potentially discharging an independent call record.

Another add-on module, Property Management System interface, or PMSi, provides an interface protocol and format for telecommunication management systems with hotel billing solutions (Front Office or PMS systems). Through the use of this interface, which can also connect to PBXs, the hotel system is able to control the opening and closing of guest extensions on check in or out.

### New Trends

We have implemented a new strategy for our company that has led to the introduction of an application suite. The suite is built on the Microsoft.Net platform and establishes a framework for us to provide customized solutions that include customer care and billing, in addition to the traditional telemanagement solutions. We are currently investing heavily in research and development to support these new operations.

### Customer Service and Installation

We provide customer support to end-user customers in the United States, Israel, Hong Kong, the Netherlands and Brazil on both a service contract and a per-incident basis. Our technical support engineers answer support calls directly and generally seek to provide same-day responses. We provide updated telephone rate tables to customers on a periodic basis under annual service contracts. The rate tables are obtained from third-party vendors who provide this data for all major long-distance service providers. Our distributors provide a full range of service and technical support functions for our products, including rate tables, to their respective end-user customers.

24

Our support staff installs products at end-user locations from offices in Israel, the United States, Hong Kong, the Netherlands and Brazil. Customers who maintain their own technical staffs are often able to install our products themselves with minimal telephone support from us. We charge our customers a fee for each installation performed by our employees. Our distributors are responsible for the installation and support of our products with respect to their end-user customers.

### Sales and Marketing

We market our products in over 60 countries worldwide through OEM

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

distribution channels and our own direct sales force in the United States, Europe, Israel, Hong Kong and Brazil, and through a network of local distributors in these and various other countries in Europe, Asia and Latin America. We employed 15 persons in our sales and marketing force and 31 persons in support as of December 31, 2003. With the acquisition of IntegraTRAK in April 2000, our marketing efforts in North America were significantly increased. This also enabled us to acquire additional Fortune 500 companies as our customers. We also sell our products to business telephone switching systems manufacturers and vendors, distributors and PTTs. Since 1985, over 60,000 TABS call accounting products have been sold, many of which have been sold to large organizations. In addition, as customers move to consolidate the management of their multi-site telecommunications activities, we intend to capitalize on our initial successes with our customers and expand the use of our products by offering these organizations the added capabilities of expanding and monitoring on the Web. By acquiring the FaciliTRAK software in March 2002, we gained access to a whole new realm of opportunities and we now are able to offer a complete solution to the high-end market sector.

### Managed Services

Our managed services solution is an outsourcing solution geared to multi-national companies that centrally manage their telecommunications usage and is being offered as an added value service. This solution has been offered in the U.S. where our Seattle office acts as a service bureau.

Switching Systems Manufacturers and Vendors. We believe that the most efficient means of selling our telemanagement products is to enter into relationships with major business telephone system manufacturers and vendors who market our products on either an original equipment manufacturer, or OEM, basis, or supplemental sales basis at the time they sell their switching systems. We also utilize our distributors to market our products to local business telephone switching systems manufacturers and distributors. We intend to establish additional strategic relationships with business telephone switching systems manufacturers and vendors and PTTs. These manufacturers have begun to consider telemanagement capability as a competitive tool when selling their products and have begun to offer end-users a complete, integrated solution. Among the companies that have been selling our products are Siemens, Philips, Ericsson, Nortel, Alcatel, ECI/Tadiran, NEC, Cisco, Damovo and Panasonic. The percentages of sales attributable to our three largest OEM customers, Siemens, Philips and Ericsson, in each of the three years ended December 31, 2003 are as follows:

25

	2001	2002	2003
	----	----	----
Siemens.....	32.0%	36.0%	40.0%
Philips.....	8.0%	6.0%	7.0%
Ericsson.....	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%

Distributors. In general, in those countries where we do not have a marketing subsidiary, we distribute our products through a local distributor. Marketing, sales, training, product and client support are provided by our local distributors. A local distributor is typically a telecommunication products marketing organization with the capability to add value with installation, training, and support. Distributors are generally responsible for the localization of our products into their native language. The distributor also translates our standardized product marketing literature and technical

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

documentation. Prior to becoming an authorized distributor, the distributor's employees must undergo sales and technical training. We are available for second-tier support for the distributor and for end-users. In coordination with the distributors, we also provide technical support for large and multinational accounts. We have distributors worldwide and intend to expand our network of distributors and resellers and to expand our direct sales force and field organization in selected markets.

PTTs. We also market our products to PTTs who integrate our solutions with the telephone systems they sell or lease to their customers. Among the PTTs who sell our products are Telecom Italy, Cable and Wireless, Trinidad PTT and Hong Kong Telecom.

Strategic Relationships. As part of our marketing strategy, we attempt to develop and establish new strategic relationships with manufacturers of voice and data communication systems and IP based equipment as means of entering new markets and channels. We are also continuing our relationship with RADVision, a recognized IP technology leader. Together with RADVision, we offer solutions consisting of RADVision's Gatekeeper and our advanced Web-based call management solution. We also signed an agreement with Cisco, pursuant to which Cisco may use our VoIP solution in their CallManager call processing software, a key component of Cisco's AVVID (Architecture for Voice, Video and Integrated Data). Our software provides validated reports on call records, start time, duration, and origin and final destination. Additional features include the ability to allocate usage-sensitive call costing and, using an integrated fraud module, detect unauthorized or inappropriate system access.

We recently entered into an OEM agreement with TeleKnowledge Group Ltd., a leading provider of carrier-class billing & rating solutions, pursuant to which we will market TeleKnowledge's Total-e billing, rating and customer care solutions on an OEM basis as a comprehensive end-to-end solution.

Other Marketing Activities. We are conducting a wide range of marketing activities aimed at generating awareness and leads, including public relations, attendance at trade shows and exhibitions, user conferences, direct mail, response mail and seminars. We have joined alliances with strategic partners such as Alcatel and Cisco. We regularly advertise our products in prominent trade publications, and we also participate in major regional and international technology and communications trade shows, forums, and fairs worldwide. These activities are intended both to generate leads and maintain the general public awareness of our products. We maintain our web site on-line, allowing for correspondence and queries from new potential customers as well as promoting support for our existing customer base.

26

### Competition

The market for telemanagement products is fragmented and is intensely competitive. Competition in the industry is generally based on product performance, depth of product line, technical support and price. We compete both with international and local competitors (including providers of telecommunications services), many of whom have significantly greater financial, technical and marketing resources than we do. Our existing and potential customers, including business telephone switching system manufacturers and vendors, may be able to develop telemanagement products and services that are as effective as, or more effective or easier to use than, those offered by us. Such existing and potential competitors may also enjoy substantial advantages over us in terms of research and development expertise, manufacturing efficiency, name

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

recognition, sales and marketing expertise and distribution channels. Although we believe that the quality of our products is equal to or better than the product quality of our competitors with regard to performance and reliability, we have no quantitative data other than the evaluations of our present customers from which to assess our current ability to compete. There can be no assurance that we will be able to compete successfully against current or future competitors or that competition will not have a material adverse effect on our future revenues and, consequently, on our business, operating results and financial condition.

### Intellectual Property Rights

We do not hold any patents and rely upon a combination of security devices, copyrights, trademarks, trade secret laws, confidentiality procedures and contractual restrictions to protect our rights in our products. Our policy has been to pursue copyright protection for our software and related documentation and trademark registration of our product names. Some of our products have the added protection afforded by a hardware component which has embedded software that it is difficult to misappropriate. In addition, our key employees and independent contractors are required to sign non-disclosure and secrecy agreements. All of the intellectual property rights with respect to our products are held by Mer Telemangement Solutions Ltd.

Our trademark rights include rights associated with the use of our trademarks, and rights obtained by registration of our trademarks. We have obtained trademark registrations in Israel and the United States. The use and registration rights of our trademarks does not ensure that we have superior rights over other third parties that may have registered or used identical related marks on related goods or services.

We believe that, because of the rapid pace of technological change in the communication industry, the legal protections for our products are less significant factors in our success than the knowledge, ability and experience of our employees, the frequency of product enhancements and the timeliness and quality of support services provided by us.

### C. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Our wholly owned subsidiaries in the United States, Hong Kong, the Netherlands and Brazil, MTS IntegraTRAK Inc., MTS Asia Ltd., JARAGA B.V. and TABS Brazil Ltd., respectively, act as marketing and customer service organizations in those countries. Our 50% owned affiliate in Spain, Jusan S.A., is engaged in the development and distribution of telemangement products.

27

### D. PROPERTY, PLANTS AND EQUIPMENT

Our executive offices and research and development facilities are located at 22 Zarhin Street, Ra'anana, Israel, where we occupy approximately 7,310 feet. The lease, which expires on December 31, 2005, has an annual rental charge of approximately \$107,335.

Our U.S. operations are headquartered in an 8,408 square foot space in Bellevue, Washington at annual rental of approximately \$208,000. The lease will expire in September 2004. We have subleased 2,040 square feet of this space until September 2004 and are receiving annual rental income of approximately

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

\$46,305. The lease for space we previously utilized in Secaucus, New Jersey expired in April 2003. The annual rental for the Secaucus space was \$103,780. The annual rental cost for our Hong Kong and Sao Paulo offices is approximately \$34,000.

### ITEM 5. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS

-----

The following discussion of our results of operations should be read together with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes, which appear elsewhere in this annual report. The following discussion contains forward-looking statements that reflect our current plans, estimates and beliefs and involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results may differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include those discussed below and elsewhere in this annual report.

#### General

#### Overview

We design, develop, market and support a comprehensive line of telecommunication management solutions that enable business organizations and other enterprises to improve the efficiency and performance of all IP operations, and to significantly reduce associated costs. Our products include call accounting and management products, fault management systems and Web-based management solutions for converged voice, voice over Internet Protocol, or IP, data and video. These products are designed to provide telecommunication and information technology managers with tools to reduce communication costs, recover charges payable by third parties, detect and report the abuse and misuse of telephone networks, monitor and detect hardware and software faults in telecommunications networks and generate telecommunications usage information for use in the management of an enterprise. We were among the first to offer PC-based call accounting systems when we introduced our TABS product in 1985. To date, over 60,000 TABS call accounting systems have been sold to end-users in more than 60 countries.

#### General

Our consolidated financial statements are stated in dollars and prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States. Transactions and balances originally denominated in dollars are presented at their original amounts. Transactions and balances in other currencies are remeasured into dollars in accordance with the principles set forth in Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 52. The majority of our sales are made outside Israel in dollars. In addition, substantial portions of our costs are incurred in dollars. Since the dollar is the primary currency of the economic environment in which we and

certain of our subsidiaries operate, the dollar is our functional and reporting currency and, accordingly, monetary accounts maintained in currencies other than the dollar are remeasured using the foreign exchange rate at the balance sheet date. Operational accounts and non-monetary balance sheet accounts are measured and recorded at the exchange rate in effect at the date of the transaction. The financial statements of certain subsidiaries and an affiliate whose functional

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

currency is not the dollar, have been translated into dollars. All balance sheet accounts have been translated using the exchange rates in effect at the balance sheet date. Statement of operations amounts have been translated using the average exchange rate for the period. The resulting translation adjustments are reported as a component of shareholders' equity in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss).

### Discussion of Critical Accounting Policies

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates and the use of different assumptions would likely result in materially different results of operations.

Critical accounting policies are those that are both most important to the portrayal of a company's financial position and results of operations, and require management's most difficult, subjective or complex judgments. Although not all of our significant accounting policies require management to make difficult, subjective or complex judgments or estimates, the following policies and estimates are those that we deem most critical.

#### Impairment of long-lived assets

Our long-lived assets are reviewed for impairment in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets," or SFAS No. 144, whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to the future undiscounted cash flows expected to be generated by the assets. If such assets are considered to be impaired, the impairment to be recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the fair value of the assets. As of December 31, 2003, no impairment was required. The use of different assumptions with respect to the expected cash flows from our assets and other economic variables, primarily the discount rate, may lead to different conclusions regarding the recoverability of our assets' carrying values and to the potential need to record an impairment loss for our long-lived assets.

#### Goodwill

Goodwill represents excess of the costs over the net assets of business acquired. Goodwill from acquisitions made prior to July 1, 2001 was amortized until December 31, 2001 by the straight-line method over 10 years. Under SFAS No. 142, goodwill acquired in a business contraction on or after July 1, 2001 will not be amortized.

Effective January 1, 2002, we adopted SFAS No. 142. SFAS No. 142 requires goodwill to be tested for impairment on adoption and at least annually thereafter, and written down when impaired, rather than being amortized as previous accounting standards required. Goodwill attributable to each of our reporting units is tested for impairment by comparing the fair value of each reporting unit with its carrying value. Fair value is determined using

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

discounted cash flows. Significant estimates used in the methodologies include estimates of future cash flows, future short-term and long-term growth rates, and weighted average cost of capital for each of the reportable units. We have selected December 31, as the date we will perform our annual goodwill impairment tests. The annual goodwill impairment test for 2003 was prepared for us by an independent consulting firm. As of December 31, 2003, no impairment was required. Any changes in our key assumptions could result in an impairment charge and such a change could have a material adverse affect on our financial position and results of operations.

### Investments in affiliates and other companies

Investments in privately held companies, in which we hold 20% to 50% ownership of voting rights and can exercise significant influence over operating and financial policy of the affiliate, are presented using the equity method of accounting. In accordance with SFAS No. 142, goodwill related to investments in affiliates is no longer amortized. The goodwill is reviewed annually (or more frequently if circumstances indicate impairment has occurred) for impairment in accordance with Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 18. "The Equity Method of Accounting for Investments in Common Stock," or "APB No. 18." Before the adoption of SFAS No. 142 on January 1, 2002, goodwill was amortized on a straight-line basis over 10 years, in accordance with APB Opinion No. 17, "Intangible Assets."

Investments in privately held companies in which the we hold less than 20% and do not have the ability to exercise significant influence over their operating and financial policy, are presented at cost. We periodically review the carrying value, in accordance with APB No. 18. If this review indicates that the carrying value is not recoverable, the carrying value is reduced to its estimated fair value. As of December 31, 2003, no impairment losses have been identified. Any changes in our key assumptions concerning their carrying value could have a material adverse affect on our financial position and results of operations.

### Research and development costs

Research and development costs, net of grants received, are charged to expenses as incurred. Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 86, "Accounting for the Costs of Computer Software to be Sold, Leased or Otherwise Marketed," requires capitalization of certain software development costs subsequent to the establishment of technological feasibility. Based on our product development process, technological feasibility is established upon completion of a working model. Costs incurred by us between completion of the working model and the point at which the product is ready for general release should be capitalized. During 2003 such costs were immaterial.

Capitalized software costs are amortized by the greater of: (i) ratio of current gross revenues from sales of the software to the total of current and anticipated future gross revenues from sales of that software or (ii) the straight-line method over the remaining estimated useful life of the product (not greater than three years). We assess the recoverability of this intangible asset on a regular basis by determining whether the amortization of the asset over our remaining

life can be recovered through undiscounted future operating cash flows from the

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

specific software product sold. Based on the most recent analyses, our management believes that no impairment of capitalized software development costs exists as at December 31, 2003. Under different assumptions with respect to the recoverability of this intangible asset, our determination may be different, which may negatively affect our financial position and results of operations.

### Concentrations of credit risk

Financial instruments that potentially subject us and our subsidiaries to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash and cash equivalents, short and long-term bank deposits, trade receivables and long-term trade receivables. Our cash and cash equivalents and short-term and long-term bank deposits are invested in major Israeli and U.S. banks. Such deposits in U.S. banks may be in excess of insured limits and are not insured in other jurisdictions. We believe that the financial institutions that hold our investments are financially sound and, accordingly, minimal credit risk exists with respect to these investments.

We perform ongoing credit evaluations of our customers and have not experienced any material losses in recent years. An allowance for a doubtful account is determined with respect to those amounts that we have determined to be doubtful of collection. Any changes in our assumptions relating to the collectability of our accounts receivable may affect our financial position and results of operations.

### Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In January 2003, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 46, or FIN 46, "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, an Interpretation of ARB No. 51," which addresses consolidation by business enterprises of variable interest entities, or VIEs, either: (1) that do not have sufficient equity investment at risk to permit the entity to finance its activities without additional subordinated financial support, or (2) in which the equity investors lack an essential characteristic of a controlling financial interest. In December 2003, the FASB completed deliberations of proposed modifications to FIN 46, or the Revised Interpretation, resulting in multiple effective dates based on the nature as well as the creation date of the VIE. VIEs created after January 31, 2003, but prior to January 1, 2004, may be accounted for either based on the original interpretation or the Revised Interpretation. However, the Revised Interpretation must be applied no later than our first quarter of fiscal 2004. VIEs created after January 1, 2004 must be accounted for under the Revised Interpretation. Special Purpose Entities, or SPEs, created prior to February 1, 2003 may be accounted for under the original or Revised Interpretation's provision no later than our fourth quarter of fiscal 2003. Non-SPEs created prior to February 1, 2003, should be accounted for under the Revised Interpretation's provisions no later than our first quarter of fiscal 2004.

We have not entered into any material arrangements with VIEs created prior to or after January 31, 2003.

### Operating Results

The following table presents certain financial data expressed as a percentage of total revenues for the periods indicated:

Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2001	2002	2003
Revenues			
Product sales.....	73.1%	75.6%	75.2%
Services.....	26.9	24.4	24.8
Total revenues.....	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of revenues			
Product sales.....	17.8	16.9	16.5
Services.....	6.0	2.5	3.5
Total cost of revenues.....	23.8	19.4	20.0
Gross profit.....	76.2	80.6	80.0
Selling and marketing.....	45.8	40.4	42.5
Research and development.....	33.2	21.7	19.8
General and administrative.....	18.1	19.0	19.8
Operating loss.....	(20.9)	(0.5)	(2.1)
Financial income, net.....	1.3	1.4	1.3
Other income (expenses).....	(6.1)	(1.5)	0.1
Loss before taxes.....	(25.7)	(0.6)	(0.7)
Taxes on income.....	0.2	0.5	2.1
Net loss before equity in earnings of affiliate.....	(25.9)	(1.1)	(2.8)
Equity in earnings of affiliate.....	2.1	2.4	3.7
Net income (loss).....	(23.8)%	1.3%	0.9%

Years Ended December 31, 2003 and 2002

Revenues. Revenues consist primarily of products sales and revenues from services, including service center income, custom made projects, maintenance and support. Revenues decreased 5.8% to \$9.23 million in 2003 from \$9.8 million in 2002 as a result of the continued global decline in the demand for telecommunication products, such as PBX systems, which effected our revenue stream. In 2003, the revenues from our wholly owned U.S. subsidiary, MTS IntegraTRAK, declined 23% from 2002 and accounted for 53.0% of our total revenues. In 2004, we took measures to reverse the sales decline in the United States, but no assurance can be given that we will be successful in our efforts.

Cost of Revenues. Cost of revenues consists primarily of (i) production costs (including hardware, media, packaging, freight and documentation); (ii) certain royalties and licenses payable to third parties (including the Office of the Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the State of Israel, or OCS) and (iii) warranty and support costs for up to one year for end-users. Cost of revenues decreased 2.6% to \$1.85 million in 2003 from \$1.9 million in 2002, principally as a result of the overall decrease in revenues.

Gross margin. Gross profit as a percentage of revenues was 80% in 2003 compared to 80.6% in 2002. We expect that our gross margin will fluctuate on a quarterly basis due to the changing nature of our sales and the timing of product introductions.

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

**Selling and Marketing, Net.** Selling and marketing expenses consist primarily of costs relating to promotion, advertising, trade shows and exhibitions, sales compensation, presales support, and travel expenses. Selling and marketing expenses were \$3.92 million in 2003, a decrease of 1% from \$3.95 million in 2002. In 2003, we succeeded in increasing our sales to existing OEM customers, which increased by 45% to \$2.3 million compared to \$1.59 million in 2002. During 2004, we began to increase our selling efforts, particularly in the U.S. and Europe, and we expect to increase our selling and marketing investment during the year.

**Research and Development, Net.** Research and development expenses consist primarily of salaries of employees engaged in on-going research and development activities, outsourcing subcontractor development and other related costs. Net research and development costs decreased 14% to \$1.83 million in 2003 from \$2.13 million in 2002. The total research and development expenses decreased due to the downsizing process that we continued to implement until the end of the third quarter of 2003. Beginning in the fourth quarter of 2003, we began to increase our research and development expenses. We did not receive any royalty-bearing grants from the OCS in 2002 or 2003 and we do not expect to receive any grants during 2004. We did not capitalize any software development costs in either year.

**General and Administrative.** General and administrative expenses consist primarily of compensation costs for administration, finance and general management personnel, professional fees and office maintenance and administrative costs. General and administrative expenses decreased 1.6% to \$1.83 million in 2003 from \$1.86 million in 2002 as we attempted to contain such expenses in light of our decreased sales.

**Financial Income, Net.** Financial income consists primarily of interest income on bank deposits and foreign currency translation adjustments. As a result of interest income earned on the remaining proceeds from our initial public offering, the sale of our wholly owned subsidiary, STS Software Systems Ltd., to NICE Systems Ltd. and the sale of our office condominium space on Fifth Avenue in New York, we recorded financial income of \$124,000 in 2003 as compared to financial income of \$134,000 in 2002. During the last three years our interest income was negatively affected by the prevailing low interest rates in both the United States and in Israel.

**Other Income.** During 2003 we recorded income of \$6,000 from the exercise of marketable securities compared to a loss of \$140,000 in 2002. During 2002 the loss was the result of the decline in the value of our marketable securities whose value had decreased as a result of the global recession.

**Taxes on Income.** In 2003 our taxes on income were \$198,000 as compared to \$52,000 in 2002. Most of the taxes in 2003 were the result of our realization of the deferred tax assets according to our conservative accounting policy. During 2003 we realized a tax benefit of \$80,000 from a tax return received from the Spanish tax authorities.

**Equity Interest in Results of Affiliates.** We recognize income and loss from the operations of our 50%-owned affiliate, Jusan S.A. In 2003 and in 2002, we recognized income of \$345,000 and \$236,000, respectively.

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

Years Ended December 31, 2002 and 2001

**Revenues.** Revenues decreased 8.4% to \$9.8 million in 2002 from \$10.7 million in 2001 as a result of the depressed global economic environment and the decline in worldwide sales of telecommunication products. In 2002, revenues from software products increased while revenues from products with hardware components decreased. In 2002, our wholly owned U.S. subsidiary, MTS IntegraTRAK, accounted for 66.0% of our total revenues.

**Cost of Revenues.** Cost of revenues decreased 25.5% to \$1.9 million in 2002 from \$2.55 million in 2001, principally as a result of the significant efforts that we initiated beginning in the fourth quarter of 2001 to reduce costs and the decrease in our revenues.

**Gross Margin.** Gross profit as a percentage of revenues, increased to 80.6% in 2002 from 76.2% in 2001, principally as a result of our cost cutting measures.

**Selling and Marketing, Net.** Selling and marketing expenses decreased significantly by 19.4% to \$3.95 million in 2002 from \$4.9 million in 2001. Although we reduced our selling and marketing expenses in 2002 by participating in fewer trade shows and focusing on development of new channels and direct sales, we enhanced our marketing efforts, particularly in the United States, and were able to maintain our sales to existing OEM customers.

**Research and Development, Net.** Net research and development costs decreased 40.2% to \$2.13 million in 2002 from \$3.56 million in 2001, as a result of a downsizing process that we implemented during 2002. We did not receive any royalty-bearing grants from the OCS in 2002 as compared to \$990,000 received in 2001 and we do not expect to receive any grants during 2003. We did not capitalize any software development costs in either 2002 or 2001.

**General and Administrative.** General and administrative expenses decreased 4.1% to \$1.86 million in 2002 from \$1.94 million in 2001, principally as a result of downsizing that we implemented during year 2002.

**Financial Income, Net.** As a result of interest income earned on the remaining proceeds from our initial public offering, the sale of our wholly owned subsidiary, STS Software Systems Ltd. to NICE Systems Ltd. and the sale of our office condominium space on Fifth Avenue in New York, we recorded financial income of \$134,000 in 2002 as compared to financial income of \$138,000 in 2001. During both 2002 and 2001 our interest income was negatively affected by the prevailing low interest rates in both the U.S. and in Israel.

**Other Income (Expenses).** During 2001 we recorded a one-time capital loss of \$741,000 (\$606,000 after tax) from a permanent value depreciation of the NICE Systems Ltd. securities we acquired as part of the consideration received from the sale of STS Software Ltd. to NICE Systems Ltd. During 2002 we recorded a loss of \$140,000 from an exercise of marketable securities, whose value had decreased as a result of the global recession.

**Taxes on Income.** In 2002 our taxes on income was \$52,000 as compared to \$16,000 in 2001.

**Equity Interest in Results of Affiliate.** In 2002 and in 2001, we recognized income of \$236,000 and \$221,000 respectively from the operations of our 50%-owned affiliate, Jusan S.A.

Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

Quarterly Results of Operations

The following tables set forth certain unaudited quarterly financial information for the two years ended December 31, 2003. The data has been prepared on a basis consistent with our audited consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this annual report and include all necessary adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, that we consider necessary for a fair presentation. The operating results for any quarter are not necessarily indicative of results for any future periods.

	Three months ended						
	2002				2003		
	Mar. 31,	Jun. 30,	Sept.30,	Dec. 31,	Mar. 31,	Jun. 30,	
Revenues.....	\$2,581	\$2,494	\$2,196	\$2,516	\$2,240	\$2,193	\$2,
Cost of revenues.....	569	407	475	445	540	411	
Gross profit.....	2,012	2,087	1,721	2,071	1,700	1,782	1,
Selling and marketing, net.....	1,014	1,071	970	899	918	1,061	
Research and development, net...	605	539	497	486	441	386	
General and administrative.....	460	473	459	466	483	422	
Operating expenses.....	2,079	2,083	1,926	1,851	1,842	1,869	1,
Operating income (loss).....	(67)	4	(205)	220	(142)	(87)	
Financial income (expense), net.	3	101	42	(12)	16	22	
Other income (loss).....	17	(5)	(71)	(81)	--	6	
Income (loss) before taxes.....	(47)	100	(234)	127	(126)	(59)	
Taxes on income (tax benefit)...	--	65	(51)	38	--	(2)	
Net income (loss) before equity in earnings (loss) of affiliate..	(47)	35	(183)	89	(126)	(57)	(
Equity interest in results of affiliate.....	38	84	84	30	139	48	
Net income (loss).....	\$ (9)	\$ 119	\$ (99)	\$ 119	\$ 13	\$ (9)	
Revenues.....	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	10
Cost of revenues.....	22.0	16.3	21.6	17.7	24.1	18.7	2
Gross profit.....	78.0	83.7	78.4	82.3	75.9	81.3	8
Selling and marketing, net.....	39.3	42.9	44.2	35.7	41.0	48.4	4
Research and development, net .....	23.4	21.6	22.6	19.3	19.7	17.6	1

Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

General and administrative.....	17.8	19.0	20.9	18.5	21.6	19.2	2
Operating expenses.....	80.5	83.5	87.7	73.5	82.3	85.2	8
Operating income (loss).....	(2.5)	0.2	(9.3)	8.8	(6.4)	(3.9)	(
Financial income (expense), net.	0.1	4.1	1.9	(0.5)	0.7	1.0	(
Other income (loss).....	0.7	(0.2)	(3.2)	(3.2)	--	0.3	-
Income (loss) before taxes.....	(1.7)	4.1	(10.6)	5.1	(5.7)	(2.6)	(
Taxes on income (tax benefit)...	--	(2.6)	2.3	(1.5)	--	(0.1)	(
Net income (loss) before equity in results of affiliate.....	(1.7)	1.5	(8.3)	3.6	(5.7)	(2.5)	(
Equity interest in results of affiliate.....	1.5	3.4	3.8	1.2	6.2	2.2	(
Net income (loss).....	(0.2%)	4.9%	(4.5%)	4.8%	0.5%	(0.3)%	(

Seasonality

Our operating results are generally not characterized by a seasonal pattern except that our volume of sales in Europe are generally lower in the summer months.

35

Impact of Inflation and Devaluation on Results of Operations, Liabilities and Assets

The dollar cost of our operations in Israel is influenced by the extent to which any increase in the rate of inflation in Israel is not offset, or is offset on a lagging basis, by a devaluation of the NIS in relation to the dollar. When the rate of inflation in Israel exceeds the rate of devaluation of the NIS against the dollar, companies experience increases in the dollar cost of their operations in Israel. Unless offset by a devaluation of the NIS, inflation in Israel will have a negative effect on our profitability, as we receive payments in dollars or dollar-linked NIS for most of our sales, while we incur a portion of our expenses in NIS.

In addition, since part of our sales are quoted in NIS, and a portion of our expenses are incurred in NIS, our results may be adversely affected by a change in the rate of inflation in Israel if the amount of our revenues in NIS decreases and is less than the amount of our expenses in NIS (or if such decrease is offset on a lagging basis) or if such change in the rate of inflation is not offset, or is offset on a lagging basis, by a corresponding devaluation of the NIS against the dollar and other foreign currencies.

The following table presents information about the rate of inflation in Israel, the rate of devaluation of the NIS against the dollar, and the rate of inflation in Israel adjusted for the devaluation:

Year ended December 31,	Israeli inflation rate %	NIS devaluation rate %	Israeli inflation adjusted for devaluation %
-----	-----	-----	-----

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

1999	1.3	(0.2)	1.5
2000	0	(2.7)	--
2001	1.4	9.3	(7.2)
2002	6.5	7.3	(0.7)
2003	(1.9)	(7.6)	6.2

A devaluation of the NIS in relation to the dollar has the effect of reducing the dollar amount of any of our expenses or liabilities which are payable in NIS, unless those expenses or payables are linked to the dollar. This devaluation also has the effect of decreasing the dollar value of any asset which consists of NIS or receivables payable in NIS, unless the receivables are linked to the dollar. Conversely, any increase in the value of the NIS in relation to the dollar has the effect of increasing the dollar value of any unlinked NIS assets and the dollar amounts of any unlinked NIS liabilities and expenses.

Because exchange rates between the NIS and the dollar fluctuate continuously, with a historically declining trend in the value of the NIS, exchange rate fluctuations, particularly larger periodic devaluations, may have an impact on our profitability and period-to-period comparisons of our results. We cannot assure you that in the future our results of operations may not be materially adversely affected by currency fluctuations.

### Conditions in Israel

Our principal executive offices and manufacturing and research and development facilities are located in the State of Israel. Accordingly, our operations in Israel are directly

36

affected by political, economic and military conditions in Israel. Specifically, we could be adversely affected by any major hostilities involving Israel, a full or partial mobilization of the reserve forces of the Israeli army, the interruption or curtailment of trade between Israel and its present trading partners, and a significant downturn in the economic or financial condition of Israel.

### Political Conditions

Since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, a number of armed conflicts have taken place between Israel and its Arab neighbors, and a state of hostility, varying from time to time in intensity, has led to security and economic problems for Israel. Since September 2000, there has been a marked increase in violence, civil unrest and hostility, including armed clashes, between the State of Israel and the Palestinians, and acts of terror have been committed inside Israel and against Israeli targets in the West Bank and Gaza. There is no indication as to how long the current hostilities will last or whether there will be any further escalation. Any further escalation in these hostilities or any future armed conflict, political instability or violence in the region may have a negative effect on our business condition, harm our results of operations and adversely affect our share price. Furthermore, there are a number of countries that restrict business with Israel and with Israeli companies. Restrictive laws or policies of those countries directed towards Israel or Israeli businesses may have an adverse impact on our operations, our financial results or the expansion of our business.

## Edgar Filing: MER TELEMANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS LTD - Form 20-F

In addition, some of our executive officers and employees in Israel are obligated to perform up to 36 days, depending on rank and pos