

# The Depository Trust Company

# IMPORTANT

**B#:** 1681

**DATE:** March 28, 2001

**TO:** All participants

**CATEGORY:** Dividends

**FROM:** Mario Zaccardi, Supervisor, Dividend Department

**ATTENTION:** Operations, Reorg & Dividend Managers, Partners & Cashiers

**SUBJECT:** TaxRelief - Country: Sweden  
Europe 2001+ HOLDRS CUSIP: 29875G105  
Paid on Ericsson L M (ERICY), a component of the HOLDR  
R/D: 04/02/2001 P/D: 04/18/2001 EDS CUT-OFF: 04/03/2001

DTC has been notified by The Bank of New York, the depository bank for the Europe 2001+ HOLDRS, that a dividend has been declared for Ericsson L M, a component of the Europe 2001+ HOLDRS. Ericsson L M dividends are covered under the Tax Convention between the United States and Sweden, that qualifying U.S. beneficial owners are entitled to a reduced tax treaty rate of 15% rather than the statutory withholding tax rate of 30%.

Participants can use DTC's Elective Dividend System (EDS) function over the Participant Terminal System (PTS) to certify all or a portion of their position entitled to the applicable withholding tax rate. Participants are urged to consult the PTS function TAXI (TAXINFO) before certifying their elections over EDS.

**NOTE: THE DEADLINE FOR CERTIFYING OVER EDS IS APRIL 03, 2001.**

**PARTICIPANTS ARE INSTRUCTED TO USE THE EDS OPTIONAL DIVIDEND SYSTEM TO  
MAKE THEIR ELECTION. OPTION #1 IS FOR THE UNFAVORABLE RATE OF 30%.  
OPTION #2 IS FOR THE FAVORABLE RATE OF 15%.**

**PLEASE REFER TO DTC'S IMPORTANT NOTICE B # 1644 FOR ADDITIONAL  
INFORMATION REGARDING THE UNDERLYING ISSUE, ERICSSON L M CUSIP # 294821400.**

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**IF PARTICIPANTS DO NOT CERTIFY THROUGH EDS FOR THE FAVORABLE RATE, THEY WILL RECEIVE THE DIVIDEND WITH 30% WITHHELD.**

**Important: Prior to certifying over EDS, participants are reminded to read, understand and comply with the information in the Legal Conditions category of TAXINFO-Sweden under the PTS function TAXI.**

Participants who fail to meet the EDS deadline or have other beneficial holders that are not eligible for the EDS process for whom they wish to file a reclaim may use DTC's **TaxReclaim<sup>sm</sup>** form preparation service, available by using the Tax Reclaim System (TAXR) function over PTS. **TaxReclaim<sup>sm</sup>** is DTC's proprietary withholding tax form preparation service that calculates reclaim entitlements and prepares the standard tax reclamation form for filing with the foreign taxing authorities or other designated agent. To enroll in **TaxReclaim<sup>sm</sup>**, please contact your Relationship Manager.

Questions regarding this Important Notice should be directed to Ms. Beverly Ifill or myself of DTC's Dividend Department at (212) 855-4526 or 4540 respectively.