

carried by cable television operators or our other distributors may result in less capacity for other content services, such as our networks, which could adversely affect our revenue.

Similarly, the foreign jurisdictions in which our networks are offered have, in varying degrees, laws and regulations governing our businesses. Programming businesses are subject to regulation on a country-by-country basis. Changes in regulations imposed by foreign governments could also adversely affect our business, results of operations and ability to expand our operations beyond their current scope. For example, Russia's legislature passed a bill prohibiting advertising on pay cable channels, which became effective January 1, 2015. Russia also approved a law requiring foreign owners of Russian television channels to reduce their ownership to 20% or less by January 1, 2017. We currently own and operate pay-TV networks in Russia. These restrictions will likely have an adverse effect on our operating results.

Financial markets are subject to volatility and disruptions that may affect our ability to obtain or increase the cost of financing our operations and our ability to meet our other obligations.

Increased volatility and disruptions in the U.S. and global financial and equity markets may make it more difficult for us to obtain financing for our operations or investments or increase the cost of obtaining financing. Our borrowing costs can be affected by short and long-term debt ratings assigned by independent rating agencies which are based, in significant part, on our performance as measured by credit metrics such as interest coverage and leverage ratios. Unforeseeable changes in foreign currencies could negatively impact our results of operations and calculations of interest coverage and leverage ratios. A low rating could increase our cost of borrowing or make it more difficult for us to obtain future financing.

Foreign exchange rate fluctuations may adversely affect our operating results and financial conditions.

We have significant operations in a number of foreign jurisdictions and certain of our operations are conducted and certain of our debt obligations are denominated in foreign currencies. The value of these currencies fluctuates relative to the U.S. dollar. As we have expanded our international operations, our exposure to exchange rate fluctuations has increased. As a result, we are exposed to exchange rate fluctuations, which could have an adverse effect on our results of operations and net asset balances. There is no assurance that downward trending currencies will rebound or that stable currencies will remain unchanged in any period or for any specific market.

Our inability to successfully acquire and integrate other businesses, assets, products or technologies could harm our operating results.

Our success may depend on opportunities to buy other businesses or technologies that could complement, enhance or expand our current business or products or that might otherwise offer us growth opportunities. We have acquired, and have made strategic investments in, a number of companies (including through joint ventures) in the past, and we expect to make additional acquisitions and strategic investments in the future. Such transactions may result in dilutive issuances of our equity securities, use of our cash resources, and incurrence of debt and amortization expenses related to intangible assets. Any acquisitions and strategic investments that we are able to identify and complete may be accompanied by a number of risks, including:

- the difficulty of assimilating the operations and personnel of acquired companies into our operations;
- the potential disruption of our ongoing business and distraction of management;
- the incurrence of additional operating losses and operating expenses of the businesses we acquired or in which we invested;
- the difficulty of integrating acquired technology and rights into our services and unanticipated expenses related to such integration;
- the failure to successfully further develop an acquired business or technology and any resulting impairment of amounts currently capitalized as intangible assets;
- the failure of strategic investments to perform as expected or to meet financial projections;
- the potential for patent and trademark infringement and data privacy and security claims against the acquired companies, or companies in which we have invested;
- litigation or other claims in connection with acquisitions, acquired companies, or companies in which we have invested;
- the impairment or loss of relationships with customers and partners of the companies we acquired or in which we invested or with our customers and partners as a result of the integration of acquired operations;
- the impairment of relationships with, or failure to retain, employees of acquired companies or our existing employees as a result of integration of new personnel;
- our lack of, or limitations on our, control over the operations of our joint venture companies;