

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

FORM 8-K

**CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)
of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported): March 12, 2020

AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

001-14195
(Commission
File Number)

65-0723837
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

**116 Huntington Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02116**
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(617) 375-7500
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value	AMT	New York Stock Exchange
1.375% Senior Notes due 2025	AMT 25A	New York Stock Exchange
1.950% Senior Notes due 2026	AMT 26B	New York Stock Exchange

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

On March 16, 2020, American Tower Corporation (the “Company”) announced that James D. Taiclet has communicated his intention to transition from his roles as the Company’s President and Chief Executive Officer. The Board of Directors of the Company (the “Board”) has appointed Thomas A. Bartlett as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, effective March 16, 2020.

Mr. Bartlett, 61, served as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Company from 2009 until March 2020. He served as Treasurer from February 2012 until December 2013 and again from July 2017 until August 2018.

Mr. Taiclet will continue as executive Chairman of the Board until the Company’s 2020 annual meeting of stockholders (the “AGM”) and will, during his transition, advise the Chief Executive Officer through and until June 14, 2020. Following the AGM, Pamela D. A. Reeve will serve as non-executive Chair of the Board, subject to her re-election as a director at the AGM. Ms. Reeve has served as a director since March 2002 and has served as the Lead Director of the Board since May 2004. Ms. Reeve will continue to serve as a member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

The Board has appointed Rodney M. Smith, 54, as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, effective March 16, 2020. Mr. Smith has been with the Company for over ten years, most recently serving as Senior Vice President, Corporate Finance and Treasurer at the Company since November 2018, and previously serving as Chief Financial Officer of the Company’s U.S. Tower Division. He will remain in his role as Treasurer following his appointment as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

There are no transactions involving the Company and Mr. Bartlett that the Company would be required to report pursuant to Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K. In connection with Mr. Smith’s appointment, the Company reports the following related party transactions under Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K: In the ordinary course of business, the Company expects to receive payments in an amount greater than \$120,000 in 2020 from Ligado Networks LLC (“Ligado”) in exchange for providing network coverage. Mr. Smith’s brother, Doug Smith, is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Ligado.

The details of Mr. Bartlett’s and Mr. Smith’s compensation in connection with their appointments have not been determined as of the date hereof and will be determined by the Board at a later date.

A copy of the press release (the “Press Release”) announcing the appointment of Mr. Bartlett as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, the appointment of Ms. Reeve as non-executive Chair of the Board following the AGM and the appointment of Mr. Smith as Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Company, is filed herewith as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit Number	Description
99.1	Press Release, dated March 16, 2020.
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document).



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AMERICAN TOWER NAMES THOMAS A. BARTLETT TO SUCCEED JAMES D. TAICLET
AS PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND NAMES RODNEY M. SMITH AS CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Boston, Massachusetts – March 16, 2020 - American Tower Corporation (NYSE: AMT) today announced that Jim Taiclet will be transitioning from his roles as President, Chief Executive Officer and executive Chairman of the Board. The Company's Board of Directors has named Tom Bartlett to succeed Mr. Taiclet as President and Chief Executive Officer, effective immediately.

Mr. Bartlett has served as American Tower's Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for over ten years, joining the Company from Verizon Communications, Inc. in April 2009 after a career there of more than 25 years. During Mr. Bartlett's tenure and leadership, American Tower's total revenues have grown by 375% and its enterprise value has expanded to \$128 billion from \$16 billion. Total stockholder return during this period was approximately 800%. Rod Smith, the Company's current Senior Vice President, Corporate Finance and Treasurer will become the new Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer. Mr. Smith has been with the Company for more than ten years, including serving as Chief Financial Officer of the Company's U.S. Tower Division.

Mr. Taiclet joined American Tower in 2001 as President and Chief Operating Officer and became its Chief Executive Officer and Chairman in 2003, succeeding Company founder Steven Dodge. Mr. Taiclet will continue as executive Chairman until the Company's 2020 annual meeting, after which point, Pamela Reeve, the Company's current lead independent director, will become non-executive Chair of the Board, subject to her re-election as a director at the annual meeting. Following his departure from American Tower, Mr. Taiclet, who currently serves on the Board of Lockheed Martin, will become its President and Chief Executive Officer, replacing Marillyn Hewson.

Tom Bartlett, American Tower's new President and Chief Executive Officer, stated, "It has been an incredible honor and privilege to work closely with Jim for more than ten years and I want to thank him for his tremendous leadership of our company. It's an exciting time for American Tower. Not only are we well-positioned to capitalize on the continuing secular growth trends in mobile on a worldwide basis, but we also have a proven leadership team and dedicated employees throughout our markets to meet the needs of our diverse stakeholders. It's an honor for me to lead a company that will play such an important role in the digital future."

Pamela Reeve, American Tower's Lead Independent Director, stated, "We believe Tom is uniquely qualified to take the reins as CEO and drive the Company to even greater success in the communications real estate space in the U.S. and in our international markets, as well as in new, emerging areas of opportunity arising from the Company's various innovation initiatives. On behalf of the American Tower Board of Directors, we thank Mr. Taiclet for his leadership and contributions over nearly two decades and for positioning the Company for continued success in the future. We will be working closely with Messrs. Taiclet, Bartlett and Smith during the next few months to ensure a smooth and seamless transition."

About American Tower

American Tower, one of the largest global REITs, is a leading independent owner, operator and developer of multitenant communications real estate with a portfolio of approximately 180,000 communications sites. For more information about American Tower, please visit www.americantower.com.

Cautionary Language Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains “forward-looking statements” concerning the Company’s goals, beliefs, expectations, strategies, objectives, plans, future operating results and underlying assumptions and other statements that are not necessarily based on historical facts. Actual results may differ materially from those indicated in the Company’s forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including those factors set forth in Item 1A of its Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2019 under the caption “Risk Factors.” The Company undertakes no obligation to update the information contained in this press release to reflect subsequently occurring events or circumstances.

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American Tower Corporation

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