# 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): September 13, 2018

## L Brands, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

#### **Delaware**

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

1-8344 31-1029810

(Commission File Number) (IRS Employer Identification No.)

43230

Three Limited Parkway Columbus, OH

(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(614) 415-7000

(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:

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

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 o

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. o

### Item 8.01. Other Events.

On September 13, 2018, L Brands, Inc. issued a press release announcing the January 2019 closure of the Henri Bendel stores and the Henri Bendel ecommerce website.

The press release included herewith as Exhibit 99.1 is incorporated herein by reference.

#### Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1 Press Release dated September 13, 2018 announcing the closure of the Henri Bendel stores and e-commerce website.

### **SIGNATURES**

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

L Brands, Inc.

Date: September 17, 2018 By: /s/ STUART B. BURGDOERFER

Stuart B. Burgdoerfer Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer



## L BRANDS TAKES ACTION TO INCREASE SHAREHOLDER VALUE -ANNOUNCES 2019 CLOSURE OF HENRI BENDEL STORES AND HENRI BENDEL E-COMMERCE

Columbus, Ohio (Sept. 13, 2018) - With a focus on increasing shareholder value, L Brands, Inc. (NYSE: LB) announces the January 2019 closing of all 23 Henri Bendel stores and the Henri Bendel e-commerce website. The stores include the company's Fifth Avenue store as well as smaller-format stores in 11 states.

All stores and the website will remain in operation through January 2019 with new merchandise continuing to arrive through the holiday season.

"We are committed to improving performance in the business and increasing shareholder value. As part of that effort, we have decided to stop operating Bendel to improve company profitability and focus on our larger brands that have greater growth potential," said Leslie Wexner, chairman and CEO of L Brands. "This decision is right for the future growth of our company, but not easy because of the impact to our L Brands family. I want to thank our Bendel associates for their dedication to this iconic brand and to our loyal Bendel customers."

The associates staying with the business through January will be offered retention bonuses. At the point when associates' positions are eliminated, they will be invited to interview for open positions within the company or will be offered separation pay and job search support services.

Operating results for Henri Bendel are included in the company's Other segment for financial reporting. The company estimates that Henri Bendel 2018 revenues and operating loss, excluding closing costs, will be approximately \$85 million and \$45 million, respectively. The company is in the process of estimating the costs associated with closing the business.

#### ABOUT L BRANDS:

L Brands, through Victoria's Secret, PINK, Bath & Body Works, La Senza and Henri Bendel, is an international company. The company operates 3,084 company-owned specialty stores in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and Greater China, and its brands are sold in more than 800 additional franchised locations worldwide. The company's products are also available online at <a href="https://www.VictoriasSecret.com">www.VictoriasSecret.com</a>, <a href="https://www.BathandBodyWorks.com">www.BathandBodyWorks.com</a>, <a href="https://www.HenriBendel.com">www.BathandBodyWorks.com</a>, <a href="https://www.HenriBendel.com">www.LaSenza.com</a>.

#### Safe Harbor Statement Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

We caution that any forward-looking statements (as such term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995) contained in this press release or made by our company or our management involve risks and uncertainties and are subject to change based on various factors, many of which are beyond our control. Accordingly, our future performance and financial results may differ materially from those expressed or implied in any such forward-looking statements. Words such as "estimate," "project," "plan," "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "planned," "potential" and any similar expressions may identify forward-looking statements. Risks associated with the following factors, among others, in some cases have affected and in the future could affect

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our financial performance and actual results and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements included in this press release or otherwise made by our company or our management:

- general economic conditions, consumer confidence, consumer spending patterns and market disruptions including severe weather conditions, natural disasters, health hazards, terrorist activities, financial crises, political crises or other major events, or the prospect of these events;
- the seasonality of our business;
- the dependence on mall traffic and the availability of suitable store locations on appropriate terms;
- · our ability to grow through new store openings and existing store remodels and expansions;
- our ability to successfully expand internationally and related risks;
- · our independent franchise, license and wholesale partners;
- our direct channel businesses;
- our ability to protect our reputation and our brand images;
- our ability to attract customers with marketing, advertising and promotional programs;
- our ability to protect our trade names, trademarks and patents;
- the highly competitive nature of the retail industry and the segments in which we operate;
- consumer acceptance of our products and our ability to manage the life cycle of our brands, keep up with fashion trends, develop new merchandise and launch new product lines successfully;
- our ability to source, distribute and sell goods and materials on a global basis, including risks related to:
  - political instability, significant health hazards, environmental hazards or natural disasters;
  - duties, taxes and other charges;
  - · legal and regulatory matters;
  - · volatility in currency exchange rates;
  - local business practices and political issues;
  - potential delays or disruptions in shipping and transportation and related pricing impacts;
  - disruption due to labor disputes; and
  - changing expectations regarding product safety due to new legislation;
- our geographic concentration of vendor and distribution facilities in central Ohio;
- fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates;
- stock price volatility;
- · our ability to pay dividends and related effects;
- our ability to maintain our credit rating;
- our ability to service or refinance our debt;
- · our ability to retain key personnel;
- our ability to attract, develop and retain qualified associates and manage labor-related costs;
- the ability of our vendors to deliver products in a timely manner, meet quality standards and comply with applicable laws and regulations;
- fluctuations in product input costs;
- our ability to adequately protect our assets from loss and theft;
- · fluctuations in energy costs;
- increases in the costs of mailing, paper and printing;
- claims arising from our self-insurance;

- our ability to implement and maintain information technology systems and to protect associated data;
- · our ability to maintain the security of customer, associate, third-party or company information;
- · our ability to comply with regulatory requirements;
- · legal and compliance matters; and
- · tax, trade and other regulatory matters.

We are not under any obligation and do not intend to make publicly available any update or other revisions to any of the forward-looking statements contained in this press release to reflect circumstances existing after the date of this press release or to reflect the occurrence of future events even if experience or future events make it clear that any expected results expressed or implied by those forward-looking statements will not be realized. Additional information regarding these and other factors can be found in Item 1A. Risk Factors in our 2017 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

For further information, please contact:

L Brands:

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