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): April 27, 2020

J&J SNACK FOODS CORP.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

]	New Jersey	0-14616	22-1935537
	•	(Commission	(I.R.S. Employer
	Jurisdiction of Organization)	File Number)	Identification No.)
		6000 Central Highway, Pennsauken, New Jersey 08109 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)	
	Regis	trant's telephone number, including area code: (856) 665	<u>-9533</u>
	(State or Other Jurisdiction of Organization) 6000 Central Highway, Pennsauken, New Jersey 08109 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code) Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (856) 665-9533 N/A (Former name or former address, if changed since last report) registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act:		
Securities regi	stered pursuant to Section 12(b) o	f the Exchange Act:	
<u>Title of Each Cl</u> Common Stock,			
			igation of the registrant under any of the
☐ Written co.	mmunications pursuant to Rule 42	25 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)	
	material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 ι	under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)	
□ Pre-comm	encement communications pursua	nt to Rule 14d-2 (b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 24	40.14d-2(b))
□ Pre-comm	nencement communications purs	suant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CI	FR 240.13e-4(c))
			he Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this
Emerging growt	h company □		
		by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act	

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ITEM 2.02. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

On April 27, 2020, J & J Snack Foods Corp. issued a press release regarding its earnings for the second quarter of fiscal 2020.

ITEM 9.01. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(c) Exhibits

Exhibit Number Description of Document

99.1 <u>Press Release dated April 27, 2020</u>

104 Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101)

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.

J & J SNACK FOODS CORP.

<u>By: /s/ Gerald B. Shreiber</u>

Gerald B. Shreiber President

/s/ Dennis G. Moore

Dennis G. Moore Chief Financial Officer

Date: April 27, 2020

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number Description of Document

99.1 Press Release dated April 27, 2020

104 Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101)

IMMEDIATE RELEASE FOR:

Contact: Dennis G. Moore

Senior Vice President Chief Financial Officer

(856) 532-6603



J & J SNACK FOODS REPORTS SECOND QUARTER SALES <u>AND EARNINGS</u>

Pennsauken, NJ, April 27, 2020 - J & J Snack Foods Corp. (NASDAQ-JJSF) today announced sales and earnings for the second quarter ended March 28, 2020.

Sales decreased 2% to \$272.0 million from \$276.3 million in last year's second quarter. Net earnings decreased 64% to \$7.3 million in the current quarter from \$20.4 million last year. Earnings per diluted share decreased 65% to \$.38 for the second quarter from \$1.08 last year. Operating income decreased 56% to \$11.0 million in the current quarter from \$24.8 million in the year ago quarter.

For the six months ended March 28, 2020, sales increased 1% to \$554.9 million from \$547.9 million in last year's first half. Net earnings decreased 36% to \$24.4 million in the six months from \$37.9 million last year. Earnings per diluted share decreased 36% to \$1.28 from \$2.00 last year. Operating income decreased 30% to \$32.7 million this year from \$46.9 million last year.

The Company also said that sales for the first 4 weeks of its third quarter that will end June 27, 2020 were down approximately 45% from a year ago. Although it cannot estimate whether sales will continue to be down at the same rate for the balance of the quarter, the Company said that it might have an operating loss in the quarter which would compare to operating income of \$39 million in the year ago June quarter if sales continue to be down at the same rate. Approximately 2/3 of the Company's sales are to venues and locations that have shut down or sharply curtailed their foodservice operations so the Company anticipates COVID-19 will continue to have a negative impact on its business. As the Company has \$267 million of cash and marketable securities on its balance sheet, it does not expect to have any liquidity issues, nor does it anticipate a material amount of its assets would be impaired.

Gerald B. Shreiber, J & J's President and Chief Executive Officer, commented, "We have good management in place, strong brands and a broad base of highly respected customers. We continue to monitor and adjust our costs and expenses as we evaluate our business on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis. We are monitoring consumer behavior, customer shifts, and industry needs to adapt our product and marketing mix for the post pandemic landscape. In what is the true JJSF entrepreneurial spirit, we are ready to fight our way back to sales growth and business performance when customers begin to re-open this summer. We are being careful not to reduce our costs so much that we won't be able service our customers when they return, making sure that we have the proper staffing and resources in place for when business opens up again. And at the same, we are working around the clock updating preventative measures to keep our employees safe. We have always been a company that has been cautious in the way we spend and use our cash. Today we have \$267 million in cash and securities, we are protecting it and using it to prepare for the future as we monitor and shape what that looks like in this changing landscape."

J&J Snack Foods Corp. (NASDAQ: JJSF) is a leader and innovator in the snack food industry, providing innovative, niche and affordable branded snack foods and beverages to foodservice and retail supermarket outlets. Manufactured and distributed nationwide, our principal products include SUPERPRETZEL, the #1 soft pretzel brand in the world, as well as internationally known ICEE and SLUSH PUPPIE frozen beverages, LUIGI'S Real Italian Ice, MINUTE MAID* frozen ices, WHOLE FRUIT sorbet and frozen fruit bars, SOUR PATCH KIDS** Flavored Ice Pops, Tio Pepe's & CALIFORNIA CHURROS, and THE FUNNEL CAKE FACTORY funnel cakes and several bakery brands within DADDY RAY'S, COUNTRY HOME BAKERS and HILL & VALLEY. With nearly twenty manufacturing facilities, and more than \$1 billion in annual revenue, J&J Snack Foods Corp. has continued to see steady growth as a company, reaching record sales for 47 consecutive years. The company consistently seeks out opportunities to expand its unique niche market product offering while bringing smiles to families worldwide. For more information, please visit http://www.jjsnack.com.

*MINUTE MAID is a registered trademark of The Coca-Cola Company.

^{**}SOUR PATCH KIDS is a registered trademark of Mondelçz International group, used under license.

J & J SNACK FOODS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS

(Unaudited)

(in thousands, except per share amounts)

	Three months ended			Six months ended				
	March 28, 2020		March 30, 2019		March 28, 2020		March 30, 2019	
Net Sales	\$	272,042	\$	276,302	\$	554,939	\$	547,914
Cost of goods sold		202,599		197,054		407,635		391,803
Gross Profit		69,443		79,248		147,304		156,111
Operating expenses								
Marketing		23,848		21,952		46,580		43,394
Distribution		24,834		22,122		48,376		46,074
Administrative		10,174		9,998		19,792		19,241
Other general (income) expense		(395)		405		(129)		549
Total Operating Expenses		58,461		54,477		114,619		109,258
Operating Income		10,982		24,771		32,685		46,853
Other (expense)income								
Investment(loss)income		(413)		2,782		1,373		3,822
Interest expense & other		(27)		(25)		(53)		(52)
Earnings before income taxes		10,542		27,528		34,005		50,623
Income taxes		3,233		7,174		9,637		12,743
NET EARNINGS	\$	7,309	\$	20,354	\$	24,368	\$	37,880
Earnings per diluted share	\$	0.38	\$	1.08	\$	1.28	\$	2.00
Weighted average number of diluted shares		19,014		18,891		19,079		18,894
Earnings per basic share	\$	0.39	\$	1.08	\$	1.29	\$	2.02
Weighted average number of basic shares		18,921		18,795		18,910		18,780
	-							

J & J SNACK FOODS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in thousands, except share amounts)

		March 28, 2020 inaudited)	September 28, 2019		
Assets		,			
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	142,969	\$	192,395	
Marketable securities held to maturity		69,337		51,091	
Accounts receivable, net		134,746		140,938	
Inventories		128,090		116,165	
Prepaid expenses and other		7,352		5,768	
Total current assets		482,494		506,357	
Property, plant and equipment, at cost					
Land		2,494		2,494	
Buildings		26,582		26,582	
Plant machinery and equipment		331,535		315,360	
Marketing equipment		256,502		240,681	
Transportation equipment		9,839		9,725	
Office equipment		32,271		31,217	
Improvements		41,774		40,626	
Construction in progress		10,050		10,039	
Total Property, plant and equipment, at cost		711,047		676,724	
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization		441,886		423,276	
Property, plant and equipment, net	<u> </u>	269,161		253,448	
Other assets					
Goodwill		123,033		102,511	
Other intangible assets, net		81,948		54,922	
Marketable securities held to maturity		41,091		79,360	
Marketable securities available for sale		12,947		19,903	
				19,903	
Operating lease right-of-use assets		64,502		2.020	
Other Total other assets		2,761 326,282		2,838 259,534	
Total Assets	\$	1,077,937	\$	1,019,339	
I inhilities and Stackholders' Equity					
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity Current Liabilities					
	ф	2.45	ď	220	
Current finance lease liabilities	\$	345	\$	339	
Accounts payable		67,494		72,029	
Accrued insurance liability		12,940		10,457	
Accrued liabilities		6,945		7,808	
Current operating lease liabilities		13,109		-	
Accrued compensation expense		16,345		21,154	
Dividends payable		10,879		9,447	
Total current liabilities		128,057		121,234	
Noncurrent finance lease liabilities		544		718	
Noncurrent operating lease liabilities		54,267		-	
Deferred income taxes		61,464		61,920	
Other long-term liabilities		537		1,716	
Stockholders' Equity					
Preferred stock, \$1 par value; authorized 10,000,000 shares; none issued		-		-	
Common stock, no par value; authorized, 50,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding 18,888,000 and					
18,895,000 respectively		45,549		45,744	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(16,099)		(12,988)	
Retained Earnings		803,618		800,995	
-		833,068		833,751	
Total stockholders' equity		1,077,937	\$	1,019,339	
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$				

J & J SNACK FOODS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited) (in thousands)

Six Months Ended

		arch 28, 2020	March 30, 2019		
Operating activities:					
Net earnings	\$	24,368	37,880		
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities:					
Depreciation of fixed assets		24,810	21,890		
Amortization of intangibles and deferred costs		1,677	1,747		
Share-based compensation		2,432	1,931		
Deferred income taxes		(298)	615		
Loss on marketable securities		2,070	284		
Other		(286)	268		
Changes in assets and liabilities net of effects from purchase of companies					
Decrease in accounts receivable		6,343	2,003		
Increase in inventories		(11,328)	(10,186)		
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses		(1,598)	172		
Decrease in accounts payable and accrued liabilities		(5,920)	(6,345)		
Net cash provided by operating activities		42,270	50,259		
Investing activities:					
Payments for purchases of companies, net of cash acquired		(57,197)	-		
Purchases of property, plant and equipment		(36,985)	(26,351)		
Purchases of marketable securities		(6,103)	(19,531)		
Proceeds from redemption and sales of marketable securities		30,938	23,137		
Proceeds from disposal of property and equipment		1,853	878		
Other		(63)	(207)		
Net cash used in investing activities		(67,557)	(22,074)		
Financing activities:			•		
Payments to repurchase common stock		(8,972)	-		
Proceeds from issuance of stock		6,300	5,926		
Payments on capitalized lease obligations		(168)	(167)		
Payment of cash dividend		(20,314)	(17,825)		
Net cash used in financing activities		(23,154)	(12,066)		
Effect of exchange rate on cash and cash equivalents		(985)	(943)		
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents		(49,426)	15,176		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		192,395	111,479		
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$	142,969			
Cash and Cash equivalents at the or period	*				

		Three months ended			Six months ended				
	N	March 28, 2020		March 30, 2019		March 28, 2020		March 30, 2019	
Sales to External Customers:									
Food Service									
Soft pretzels	\$	45,660	\$	49,812	\$	95,601	\$	98,803	
Frozen juices and ices		9,491		8,947		16,534		16,474	
Churros		14,754		15,770		31,145		30,905	
Handhelds		7,447		7,987		14,636		16,789	
Bakery		89,407		84,406		185,779		178,651	
Other	<u></u>	4,573	ф.	8,145	Φ.	11,085	ф	13,471	
Total Food Service	<u>\$</u>	171,332	\$	175,067	\$	354,780	\$	355,093	
Retail Supermarket									
Soft pretzels	\$	12,332	\$	10,829	\$	22,158	\$	21,015	
Frozen juices and ices		15,864		14,668		25,957		25,664	
Biscuits		6,630		6,358		13,608		14,222	
Handhelds		3,117		2,479		5,878		5,047	
Coupon redemption		(866)		(507)		(1,409)		(1,201)	
Other		494		340		805		699	
Total Retail Supermarket	\$	37,571	\$	34,167	\$	66,997	\$	65,446	
Frozen Beverages									
Beverages	\$	31,895	\$	33,603	\$	67,150	\$	65,039	
Repair and maintenance service	Ψ	21,779	Ψ	20,034	Ψ	44,265	Ψ	39,777	
Machines revenue		8,910		13,161		20,891		22,065	
Other		555		270		856		494	
Total Frozen Beverages	\$	63,139	\$	67,068	\$	133,162	\$	127,375	
Consolidated Sales	\$	272,042	\$	276,302	\$	554,939	\$	547,914	
Depreciation and Amortization:	ф	E 240	ф	6.646	Ф	4.4.50	ф	40.000	
Food Service	\$	7,240	\$		\$	14,158	\$	12,938	
Retail Supermarket		329		320		688		655	
Frozen Beverages	<u></u>	6,188	đ	5,066	đ	11,641	ď	10,044	
Total Depreciation and Amortization	<u>\$</u>	13,757	\$	12,002	\$	26,487	\$	23,637	
Operating Income :									
Food Service	\$	7,951	\$	19,182	\$	25,985	\$	36,879	
Retail Supermarket		4,337		3,039		6,554		5,250	
Frozen Beverages		(1,306)		2,550		146		4,724	
Total Operating Income	\$	10,982	\$	24,771	\$	32,685	\$	46,853	
Capital Expenditures:									
Food Service	\$	10,331	\$	8,403	\$	18,734	\$	14,681	
Retail Supermarket	Ψ	275	-	581	~	1,235	_	1,133	
Frozen Beverages		8,774		5,530		17,016		10,537	
Total Capital Expenditures	\$	19,380	\$	14,514	\$	36,985	\$	26,351	
Accete									
Assets:	ф	740 210	¢	600.020	¢	740 210	¢	600.020	
Food Service	\$	740,318	\$	699,028	\$	740,318	\$	699,028	
Retail Supermarket		31,636		30,034		31,636		30,034	
Frozen Beverages	<u></u>	305,983	¢	223,650	ф	305,983	ch.	223,650	
Total Assets	<u>\$</u>	1,077,937	\$	952,712	\$	1,077,937	\$	952,712	

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Net sales decreased \$4,260,000 or 2% to \$272,042,000 for the three months and increased \$7,025,000 or 1% to \$554,939,000 for the six months ended March 28, 2020 compared to the three and six months ended March 30, 2019, respectively. Excluding sales from the acquisition of ICEE Distributors in October 2019 and BAMA ICEE in February 2020, sales decreased 2% for the quarter and increased about 1/3 of 1% for the six months. Sales for the first 11 weeks of our second quarter increased approximately 2% and decreased approximately 20% in the last 2 weeks of the quarter due to the slowdown in the economy.

Net Sales for the first 4 weeks of our third quarter ending June 27, 2020 were down approximately 45% from a year ago. Although we cannot estimate whether net sales will continue to be down at the same rate for the balance of the quarter, we estimate that we may have an operating loss in the quarter which would compare to operating income of \$39 million in the year ago June quarter if sales continue to be down at the same rate. Approximately 2/3 of our sales are to venues and locations that have shut down or sharply curtailed their foodservice operations so we anticipate COVID-19 will continue to have a negative impact on our business. As we have \$267 million of cash and marketable securities on our balance sheet, we do not expect to have any liquidity issues, nor do we anticipate a material amount of our assets would be impaired.

FOOD SERVICE

Sales to food service customers decreased \$3,735,000 or 2% in the second quarter to \$171,332,000 and decreased \$313,000 or 1% to \$354,780,000 for the six months. For the first 11 weeks of the quarter, sales increased approximately 2% and sales decreased approximately 24% in the last 2 weeks of the quarter. Soft pretzel sales to the food service market decreased 8% to \$45,660,000 in the three months and 3% to \$95,601,000 in the six months. Prior to COVID-19, soft pretzel sales were strong to convenience store chains and schools in the quarter.

Frozen juices and ices sales increased 6% to \$9,491,000 in the three months and were essentially the same as last year at \$16,534,000 in the six months as sales to warehouse club stores were strong in the quarter.

Churro sales to food service customers were down 6% in the quarter to \$14,754,000 and were up less than 1% to \$31,145,000 in the six months due to the dropoff in sales due to COVID-19.

Sales of bakery products increased \$5,001,000 or 6% in the second quarter and increased \$7,128,000 or 4% to \$185,779,000 for the six months with significant offsetting increases and decreases in sales to particular customers.

Sales of handhelds decreased \$540,000 or 7% in the quarter and \$2,153,000 or 13% in the six months with the decrease primarily coming from lower sales to co-pack customers.

Sales of funnel cake decreased \$3,370,000 or 44%, to \$4,362,000 in the quarter and \$2,130,000, or 17%, to \$10,562,000 in the six months due primarily to lower sales to one quick service restaurant chain that ran a limited time offer in last year's quarter.

Sales of new products in the first twelve months since their introduction were approximately \$1.6 million in this quarter and \$4.1 million in the six months.

Operating income in our Food Service segment decreased to \$7,951,000 from \$19,182,000 in the quarter and decreased to \$25,985,000 from \$36,879,000 in the six months primarily because of lower volume and higher operating expenses throughout the quarter and a significant dropoff in sales and production due to COVID-19.

RETAIL SUPERMARKETS

Sales of products to retail supermarkets increased \$3,404,000 or 10% to \$37,571,000 in the second quarter and increased \$1,551,000 or 2% in the six months. For the first 11 weeks of the quarter, sales increased approximately 4% and increased approximately 45% in the last 2 weeks of the quarter. Soft pretzel sales for the second quarter were up 14% to \$12,332,000 and up 5% to \$22,158,000 for the six months. Sales of frozen juices and ices increased \$1,196,000 or 8% to \$15,864,000 in the second quarter and increased \$293,000 or 1% in the six months. Handheld sales to retail supermarket customers increased 26% to \$3,117,000 in the quarter and 16% to \$5,878,000 in the six months. Biscuit sales for the second quarter were up 4% to \$6,630,000 and down 4% to \$13,608,000 for the six months. Sales were generally higher for all product lines as sales in the year ago periods were impacted by lost volume and placements due the price increases implemented in last year's first quarter and because of increased sales to supermarkets generally in the last 2 weeks of the quarter due to COVID-19.

Sales of new products in the second quarter were approximately \$300,000 and were approximately \$400,000 for the six months.

Operating income in our Retail Supermarkets segment was \$4,337,000 in this year's second quarter compared to \$3,039,000 in last year's quarter, a 43% increase and increased to \$6,554,000 in this year's six months compared to \$5,250,000 in last year's six months due to higher volume and higher prices.

FROZEN BEVERAGES

Frozen beverage and related product sales decreased 6% to \$63,139,000 in the second quarter and increased 5% to \$133,162,000 in the six months. For the first 11 weeks of the quarter, sales increased approximately 1% and decreased approximately 38% in the last 2 weeks of the quarter. Beverages sales were down 5% to \$31,895,000 in the quarter and up 5% to \$67,150,000 in the six months. Excluding sales from the acquisition of ICEE Distributors in October 2019 and BAMA ICEE in February 2020, frozen beverages and related product sales decreased 10% in the quarter and were up less than 1% for the six months and beverages sales decreased 14% for the quarter and 3% for the six months. Gallon sales were down 12% in the quarter and down 6% in the six months exclusive of ICEE Distributors' gallons. Service revenue increased 9% to \$21,779,000 in the second quarter and increased 10% to \$44,265,000 in the six months with sales increases and decreases spread throughout our customer base.

Machines revenue (primarily sales of frozen beverage machines) were \$8,910,000, a decrease of \$4,251,000 in the quarter and \$20,891,000, a decrease of \$1,174,000 in the six months, with the decrease because of a significant install project at one quick service restaurant chain in last year's quarter. Our Frozen Beverage segment had an operating loss of \$1,306,000 compared to operating income of \$2,550,000 in last year's quarter and operating income for the six months was \$146,000 this year and \$4,724,000 last year primarily as a result of lower volume due to COVID-19 and relocation costs of our ICEE's headquarters of about \$1.5 million in our second quarter and \$2.3 million in the six months.

CONSOLIDATED

Gross profit as a percentage of sales was 25.53% in the second quarter and 28.68% last year. Gross profit as a percentage of sales was 26.54% in the six month period this year and 28.49% last year. Gross profit percentage decreased for both periods because of lower volume in our food service and frozen beverages segments in the second quarter, product mix changes and significant dropoff in production at the end of the second quarter due to COVID-19, although gross profit as a percentage of sales was lower prior to COVID-19 for both the quarter and six months.

Total operating expenses increased \$3,984,000 in the second quarter and as a percentage of sales increased to 21.5% from 19.7% last year. For the first half, operating expenses increased \$5,361,000 and as a percentage of sales increased to 20.7% from 19.9% last year. Marketing expenses increased to 8.8% of sales in this year's quarter from 7.9% last year and were 8.4% in the six months compared to 7.9% of sales in last year's six months primarily because of increased spending in our retail supermarket and frozen beverages segments and because of lower sales in the second quarter (lower denominator). Distribution expenses were 9.1% of sales in the second quarter and 8.0% of sales in last year's quarter and were 8.7% in this year's six months compared to 8.4% of sales in last year's six months primarily due to higher freight and storage costs and because of lower sales in the second quarter (lower denominator). Administrative expenses were 3.7% of sales in the second quarter compared to 3.6% of sales last year in the second quarter and were 3.6% in this year's six months compared to 3.5% of sales in last year's six months.

Operating income decreased \$13,789,000 or 56% to \$10,982,000 in the three months and decreased \$14,168,000 or 30% to \$32,685,000 in the first six months as a result of the aforementioned items. About \$6.5 million of the decrease in operating income in the second quarter was in January and February primarily due to higher costs and lower volume in our foodservice segment and the relocation costs in our frozen beverages segment.

We had an investment loss, net of income, of \$413,000 in this year's quarter compared to investment income of \$2,782,000 in last year's quarter. Investment income decreased to \$1,373,000 from \$3,822,000 in the six month periods. We had unrealized losses of \$1,993,000 and \$267,000 in the six months ended March 28, 2020 and March 30, 2019 respectively. We had unrealized losses of \$2,064,000 in the three months ended March 28, 2020 and unrealized gains of \$760,000 in the three months ended March 30, 2019.

Net earnings decreased \$13,045,000, or 64%, in the current three month period to \$7,309,000 and decreased \$13,512,000, or 36%, to 24,368,000 for the six month period this year compared to \$37,880,000 for the six month period last year.

Net earnings in last year's six months benefitted by a reduction of approximately \$900,000 in tax as the provision for the one time repatriation tax as a result of the Tax Cuts and Job Act of 2017 was reduced as the amount recorded the year prior was an estimate. Excluding the reduction in the provision for the one time repatriation tax, our effective tax rate was 27.0% in last year's six months. Our effective tax rate was 28.3% in this year's six months.

There are many factors which can impact our net earnings from year to year and in the long run, among which are the supply and cost of raw materials and labor, insurance costs, factors impacting sales as noted above, the continuing consolidation of our customers, our ability to manage our manufacturing, marketing and distribution activities, our ability to make and integrate acquisitions and changes in tax laws and interest rates.

The forward-looking statements contained herein are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect management's analysis only as of the date hereof. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly revise or update these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that arise after the date hereof.