## FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

## x Quarterly Report under Section 13 OR 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For quarterly period ended March 31, 2006
or
o Transition Report under Section 13 OR 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
For the transition period from $\qquad$ to $\qquad$

Commission file Number: 0-10546
LAWSON PRODUCTS, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| Delaware | 36-2229304 |
| :---: | :---: |
| (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) | (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.) |
| 1666 East Touhy Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois | 60018 |
| (Address of principal executive offices) | (Zip Code) |

Registrant's telephone no., including area code: (847) 827-9666

## Not applicable

Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report.
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

## Yes $\mathrm{X} \quad$ No 0

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer. An accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

$$
\text { Large accelerated filer } \mathbf{0} \quad \text { Accelerated Filer } \mathbf{X} \quad \text { Non-accelerated filer } \mathbf{0}
$$

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined by Rule $12 \mathrm{~b}-2$ of the Exchange Act). Yes 0 No X

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

## Item 1. Financial Information

## LAWSON PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Amounts in thousands, except share and per share data)

## ASSETS

Current Assets:
Cash and cash equivalents
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful account
Inventories
Miscellaneous receivables and prepaid expenses
Deferred income taxes
Discontinued current assets
Total Current Assets
Property, plant and equipment, less allowances for depreciation and amortization Deferred income taxes
Goodwill, less accumulated amortization
Other assets
Discontinued non-current assets

## Total Assets

## LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Current Liabilities:
Accounts payable
Accrued expenses and other liabilities

Income taxes
Discontinued current liabilities
Total Current Liabilities

Accrued liability under security bonus plans
Other

Stockholders' Equity:
Preferred Stock, $\$ 1$ par value: Authorized - 500,000 shares
Issued and outstanding - None
Common Stock, $\$ 1$ par value:
Authorized - 35,000,000 shares
Issued and outstanding-(2006-8,974,841 shares; 2005-8,972,041 shares)
Capital in excess of par value
Retained earnings
Accumulated other comprehensive loss
Total Stockholders' Equity

| March 31, |
| :---: |
| 2006 |
| (UNAUDITED) |

$\qquad$ 2005 \$15,467
60,102
79,125
10,958
912
1,462
168,026
45,662
18,212
27,999
19,322
3
\$279,224

| $\$ 9,502$ |  |
| ---: | ---: |
| 30,564 | $\$ 9,380$ |
| 680 | 41,495 |
| 767 | --- |
|  | 1,668 |
|  | 52,513 |
| 24,668 |  |
| 17,827 |  |
| 42,495 | 23,866 |
|  |  |

St

| 8,975 | 8,972 |
| ---: | ---: |
| 4,197 | 4,137 |
| 175,862 | 172,668 |
| $(636)$ | $(352)$ |
|  | $188,398,425$ |

## See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

## LAWSON PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME(UNAUDITED)

| (Amounts in thousands, except per share data) |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |

[^0]
## LAWSON PRODUCTS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(UNAUDITED)
(Amounts in thousands)

|  | For the Three Months Ended March 31, |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2006 | 2005 |
| Operating activities: |  |  |
| Net income | \$4,988 | \$4,956 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities: |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortization | 2,111 | 1,732 |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities | $(11,767)$ | $(5,003)$ |
| Other | (99) | 997 |
| Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities | $(4,767)$ | 2,682 |
| Investing activities: |  |  |
| Additions to property, plant and equipment | $(1,300)$ | (803) |
| Net Cash Used in Investing Activities | $(1,300)$ | (803) |
| Financing activities: |  |  |
| Purchases of treasury stock | --- | $(5,678)$ |
| Payments on long term debt | --- | (382) |
| Dividends paid | $(1,795)$ | $(1,832)$ |
| Other | 63 | 98 |
| Net Cash Used in Financing Activities | $(1,732)$ | $(7,794)$ |
| Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents | $(7,799)$ | $(5,915)$ |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period | 16,297 | 28,872 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period | 8,498 | 22,957 |
| Cash Held by Discontinued Operations | (125) | (816) |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents Held by |  |  |
| Continuing Operations at End of Period | \$8,373 | \$22,141 |

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

## NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A) As contemplated by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the accompanying consolidated financial statements and footnotes have been condensed and therefore, do not contain all disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles. Reference should be made to Lawson Products, Inc.'s (the
"Company") Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005. The Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2006, the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 and the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 are unaudited. In the opinion of the Company, all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring accruals) have been made, which are necessary to present fairly the results of operations for the interim periods. Operating results for the three-month period ended March 31, 2006 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2006.

Certain amounts have been reclassified in the 2005 financial statements to conform to the 2006 presentation.
B) Comprehensive Income

Comprehensive income (in thousands) was $\$ 4,704$ and $\$ 4,845$ for the first quarters of 2006 and 2005, respectively. Comprehensive income was negatively impacted by foreign currency translation adjustments of $\$ 284$ and $\$ 111$ for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Accumulated comprehensive income consists only of foreign currency translation adjustments, net of related income tax.
C) Earnings per Share

The calculation of dilutive weighted average shares outstanding for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 are as follows (in thousands):

|  | Three months 2006 | March 31 <br> 2005 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Basic weighted average shares outstanding | 8,974 | 9,208 |
| Dilutive impact of options outstanding | 14 | 24 |
| Dilutive weighted average shares outstanding | 8,988 | 9,232 |

## D) Revolving Line of Credit

The revolving line of credit has a maximum borrowing capacity of $\$ 75$ million and a maturity date of March 27, 2009. The revolving line of credit carries a floating interest rate of prime minus 150 basis points or LIBOR plus 75 basis points, at the Company's option. Interest is payable quarterly on prime rate borrowings and at contract expirations for LIBOR borrowings. The line of credit contains certain financial covenants regarding interest coverage, minimum stockholders' equity and working capital, all of which the Company was in compliance with at March 31, 2006. The Company had no borrowings under the line at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005.
E) Reserve for Severance

The table below shows an analysis of the Company's reserves for severance and related payments for the first three months of 2006 and 2005:-

| In thousands | 2006 | 2005 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Balance at beginning of year | \$ 216 | \$1,042 |
| Cash paid | (38) | (686) |
| Adjustment to reserves | (28) | --- |
| Balance at March 31 | \$ 150 | \$ 356 |

F) Intangible Assets

Intangible assets subject to amortization, included within other assets, were as follows (in thousands):

|  | March 31, 2006 |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |

Trademarks and tradenames are being amortized over 15 years. The non-compete covenant is being amortized over 5 years. Amortization expense for intangible assets is expected to be $\$ 250,000$ for 2006 and for each of the next four years.
G) Stock-Based Compensation

The Company has adopted the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), "Share-Based Payment," ("SFAS 123(R)") which requires the recognition of compensation expense related to the fair value of our stock-based compensation awards at the beginning of our first quarter of 2006. SFAS 123(R) supersedes the Company's previous accounting under Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees" ("APB 25") for periods beginning in fiscal 2006. In March 2005, the Securities and Exchange Commission issued Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107 ("SAB 107") relating to SFAS 123(R). The Company has applied the provisions of SAB 107 in its adoption of SFAS 123(R).

For the quarter ended March 31, 2005, the Company complied with FASB Statement No.148, "Accounting for Stock Based Compensation - Transition and Disclosure," which required interim disclosure to show the effect on net income and net income per share as required by FASB Statement No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation." This disclosure was as follows (in thousands):
\(\left.$$
\begin{array}{llr} & \begin{array}{c}\text { Three Months } \\
\text { Ended }\end{array}
$$ <br>

March 31, 2005\end{array}\right]\)| $\$ 4,956$ |
| :---: |
| Net income - as reported <br> Stock based compensation income included in <br> net income, net of tax <br> Stock based compensation expense <br> determined under fair value method, net of tax |
| Net income - pro forma <br> Basic and diluted earnings per share <br> - as reported and pro forma |

The Company adopted SFAS 123(R) using the modified prospective transition method, which requires the application of the accounting standard as of January 1 , 2006, the first day of the Company’s fiscal year 2006. In accordance with the modified prospective transition method, the Company’s Consolidated Financial Statements for prior periods have not been restated to reflect, and do not include, the impact of SFAS 123(R).

The Incentive Stock Plan (Plan), provides for the issuance of incentive compensation to non-employee directors, officers and key employees in the form of stock options, stock performance rights (SPRs), stock purchase agreements and stock awards. As of December 31, 2005, 493,859 shares of Common Stock were available for issuance under the Plan.

The following is a summary of the activity in the Company's stock options during the quarter:

|  | Average Option Exercise Price | \# of Options |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Outstanding December 31, 2005 | \$22.83 | 37,200 |
| Granted/converted |  | -- |
| Exercised | 22.50 | $(2,800)$ |
| Forfeited/expired/cancelled |  | -- |
| Outstanding March 31, 2006 | \$22.86 | 34,400 |
|  | Weighted |  |
|  | Average |  |
| Exercisable Options at: | Price | Option Shares |
| March 31, 2006 | \$22.86 | 34,400 |
| December 31, 2005 | \$22.83 | 37,200 |

The aggregate intrinsic value for options outstanding and exercisable is \$558,042.

As of March 31, 2006, the Company had the following outstanding options:

| Exercise Price | $\$ 22.44-\$ 22.50$ |  | $\$ 23.56$ |  | $\$ 26.75$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Options Outstanding | 25,400 |  | 8,000 |  | 1,000 |
| Weighted Average Exercise Price | $\$ 22.48$ |  | $\$ 23.56$ |  | $\$ 26.75$ |
| Weighted Average Remaining Life | 1.0 |  | 4.1 | 2.1 |  |
| Options Exercisable | 25,400 |  | 8,000 | 1,000 |  |

As of December 31, 2005, all outstanding stock options were fully vested, and no remaining unrecognized compensations expense is to be recorded in 2006.

The Company granted SPRs in 2005 pursuant to the Plan to selected Executives and outside Directors. These SPRs have exercise prices ranging from $\$ 38.67$ to $\$ 41.55$ per share.

These SPRs vest at $20 \%$ to $33 \%$ per year and entitle the recipient to receive a cash payment equal to the excess of the market value of the Company's common stock over the SPR exercise price when the SPRs are surrendered. As required by FAS 123R, the SPRs outstanding as of January 1,2006 have been remeasured at fair value using the Black-Scholes method. Compensation expense for the SPRs in the first quarter 2006 was $\$ 1,096$ which includes $\$ 556$ for the cumulative effect resulting from the adoption of FAS 123R.

|  | Average SPR <br> Exercise Price | \# of SPRs |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Outstanding December 31, 2005 (1) | \$29.57 | 206,250 |
| Exercised | 26.91 | $(1,000)$ |
| Outstanding March 31, 2006 (2) | \$29.59 | 205,250 |

(1) Includes 128,180 SPRs vested at December 31, 2005 at a weighted average exercise price of $\$ 26.98$ per share.
(2) Includes 127,180 SPRs vested at March 31, 2006 at a weighted average exercise price of $\$ 27.32$ per share.

The aggregate intrinsic value of SPRs outstanding is $\$ 1,960,840$. As of March 31, 2006, there was $\$ 1.5$ million of unrecognized compensation cost related to nonvested SPRs, which will be recognized over a weighted average period of 1.35 years.

As stock-based compensation expense recognized in the Consolidated Statement of Operations for the first quarter of fiscal 2006 is based on awards ultimately expected to vest, it has been reduced for estimated forfeitures. SFAS 123(R) requires forfeitures to be estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates. Forfeitures were estimated based on historical experience. In the Company's pro forma information required under SFAS 123 for the periods prior to fiscal 2006, the Company accounted for forfeitures as they occurred.

## Valuation Information

The Company estimated the fair value of SPRs using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. This model requires the input of subjective assumptions that will usually have a significant impact on the fair value estimate. The weighted-average estimated value of SPRs granted during the three months ended March 31, 2006 was $\$ 16.23$ per share using the Black Scholes model with the following assumptions:

|  | March 31, 2006 |
| :--- | :---: |
| Expected volatility | $33.40 \%$ to $38.16 \%$ |
| Risk-free interest rate | $4.66 \%$ to $4.76 \%$ |
| Expected term (in years) | 2.4 to 6.2 |
| Expected dividend yield | $1.95 \%$ |

The Company based the calculation of expected volatility on the trailing 5 year historic volatility of the Company's stock price. The Company based the risk-free interest rate on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of each respective option grant.

Beginning January 1, 2006 the Company accounted for stock-based compensation in accordance with SFAS No. 123(R), Share-Based Payment. Under the fair value recognition provisions of this statement, the Company measured share-based compensation cost at the grant date based on the value of the award, which is recognized as expense over the vesting period. Judgment is required in estimating the amount of share-based awards that are expected to be forfeited. If actual results differ significantly from these estimates, stock-based compensation expense and the results of operations could be materially impacted.

Stock-based compensation expense recognized in the Consolidated Statement of Operations for the first quarter of fiscal 2006 is based on awards ultimately expected to vest, reduced for estimated forfeitures. SFAS 123(R) requires forfeitures to be estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates.

Forfeitures were estimated based on historical experience. In the Company's pro forma information required under SFAS 123 for the periods prior to fiscal 2006 , the Company accounted for forfeitures as they occurred.

Compensation expense for all stock-based compensation awards, including SPRs granted on or prior to January 1, 2006 will be recognized using the straight-line amortization method.

Prior to adoption of SFAS 123(R), the Company accounted for stock options and SPRs using ABP 25 . No expense was recorded for stock options as options were granted at market value. SPRs were valued at market-to-market using intrinsic value at the reporting date.

## H) Segment Reporting

The Company has two reportable segments: Maintenance, Repair and Replacement distribution in North America (MRO), and Original Equipment Manufacturer distribution and manufacturing in North America (OEM).

The Company's MRO distribution segment distributes a wide range of MRO parts to repair and maintenance organizations primarily through the Company's force of independent field sales agents, as well as inside sales personnel.

The Company's OEM segment manufactures and distributes component parts to OEM manufacturers through a network of independent manufacturers representatives as well as internal sales personnel.

The Company's reportable segments are distinguished by the nature of products, types of customers, and manner of servicing customers.

The Company evaluates performance and allocates resources to reportable segments primarily based on operating income.

Financial information for the Company's reportable segments consisted of the following:

|  | Three Months Ended March 31 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| In thousands | 2006 | 2005 |
| Net sales |  |  |
| MRO | \$108,248 | \$ 86,548 |
| OEM | 23,627 | 19,110 |
| Consolidated total | \$131,875 | \$105,658 |
| Operating income |  |  |
| MRO | \$ 6,852 | \$ 7,614 |
| OEM | 1,452 | 1,043 |
| Consolidated total | \$ 8,304 | \$ 8,657 |

The reconciliation of segment profit for continuing operations to consolidated income before income taxes consisted of the following:

|  | Three Months Ended March 31 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| In thousands | 2006 | 2005 |
| Total operating income from reportable segments | \$ 8,304 | \$ 8,657 |
| Investment and other income | 559 | 75 |
| Income from continuing operations before income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change | \$ 8,863 | \$ 8,732 |

Asset information for continuing operations related to the Company's reportable segments consisted of the following:

| In thousands | $\begin{gathered} \text { March 31, } \\ 2006 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { December 31, } \\ 2005 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total assets |  |  |
| MRO | \$199,795 | \$208,333 |
| OEM | 51,571 | 50,302 |
| Total for reportable segments | 251,366 | 258,635 |
| Corporate | 20,478 | 19,124 |
| Consolidated total | \$271,844 | \$277,759 |

At March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, the carrying value of goodwill within each reportable segment was as follows (in thousands):

| MRO | $\$ 25,748$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| OEM | 2,251 <br> Consolidated total$\$ 27,999$ |

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Board of Directors and Stockholders
Lawson Products, Inc.

We have reviewed the condensed consolidated balance sheet of Lawson Products, Inc. and subsidiaries as of March 31, 2006 and the related condensed consolidated statements of income and cash flows for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2006 and 2005. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management.

We conducted our reviews in accordance with standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). A review of interim financial information consists principally of applying analytical procedures and making inquiries of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters. It is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with auditing standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the condensed consolidated interim financial statements referred to above for them to be in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We have previously audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheet of Lawson Products, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2005, and the related consolidated statements of income, changes in stockholders' equity and cash flows for the year then ended, not presented herein, and in our report dated March 10, 2006, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements. In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2005, is fairly stated in all material respects, in relation to the consolidated balance sheet from which it has been derived.

ERNST \& YOUNG LLP
Chicago, Illinois
May 1, 2006

Safe Harbor" Statement under the Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 that involve risks and uncertainties. The terms "may," "should," "could," "anticipate," "believe," "continues", "estimate," "expect," "intend," "objective," "plan," "potential," "project" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions that are difficult to predict. These statements are based on management's current expectations, intentions or beliefs and are subject to a number of factors, assumptions and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences or that might otherwise impact the business include the impact of governmental investigations, such as the recently announced investigation by U.S. Attorney's office for the Northern District of Illinois; excess and obsolete inventory; disruptions of the company's information systems; risks of rescheduled or cancelled orders; increases in commodity prices; the influence of controlling stockholders; competition and competitive pricing pressures; the effect of general economic conditions and market conditions in the markets and industries the company serves; the risks of war, terrorism, and similar hostilities; and, all of the factors discussed in the Company's "Risk Factors" set forth in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005.

The Company undertakes no obligation to update any such factor or to publicly announce the results of any revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

## ITEM 2 MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Management's discussion and analysis of operating results below focuses on the MRO and OEM business segments. For additional information on the Company's segment reporting, refer to Note H — Segment Reporting in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Quarter ended March 31, 2006 compared to Quarter ended March 31, 2005
The following table presents a summary of the Company's financial performance for the first quarters of 2006 and 2005:

| (Dollars in thousands) | 2006 | \% of <br> Net Sales | 2005 | \% of <br> Net Sales |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net sales | \$131,875 | 100.0 | \$105,658 | 100.0 |
| Cost of goods sold | 55,078 | 41.8 | 40,497 | 38.3 |
| Gross profit | 76,797 | 58.2 | 65,161 | 61.7 |
| Operating expenses | 68,493 | 51.9 | 56,504 | 53.5 |
| Operating income | 8,304 | 6.3 | 8,657 | 8.2 |
| Other | 559 | 0.4 | 75 | 0.1 |
| Income from continuing operations before income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change | 8,863 | 6.7 | 8,732 | 8.3 |
| Income tax expense | 3,546 | 2.7 | 3,522 | 3.3 |
| Income from continuing operations before cumulative effect of accounting change | 5,317 | 4.0 | 5,210 | 4.9 |
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations | 32 | 0.0 | (254) | (0.2) |
| Income before cumulative effect of accounting change | 5,349 | 4.1 | 4,956 | 4.7 |
| Cumulative effect of accounting change | (361) | (0.3) | --- | --- |
| Net income | \$4,988 | 3.8 | \$4,956 | 4.7 |

## REVENUES AND GROSS PROFIT

The following table presents the Company's net sales results for its MRO and OEM businesses for the first quarter of 2006 and 2005 :

| (Dollars in millions) |  | 2006 |  | 2005 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
|  |  |  | $\$ 108.3$ |  |
| OEM |  | $\$ 86.6$ |  |  |

Maintenance, Repair and Replacement distribution (MRO) net sales increased $\$ 21.7$ million in the first quarter of 2006 , to $\$ 108.3$ million from $\$ 86.6$ million in the prior year period. Sales increases were achieved in both the U.S. and Canada for the quarter, principally attributable to the incremental sales of $\$ 14.7$ million from the December 1, 2005 acquisition of Rutland Tool \& Supply Co. ("Rutland"). MRO segment sales increased 25.1\%, driven primarily by the impact of Rutland sales and increased sales to existing customers, the addition of new customers and positive effects from price increases implemented in the second half of 2005. Rutland sales accounted for approximately two-thirds of the increase in MRO segment sales. Effects of foreign exchange fluctuations were positive to quarterly sales comparisons, although not significant.

Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) net sales increased $\$ 4.5$ million in the first quarter of 2006, to $\$ 23.6$ million from $\$ 19.1$ million. Sales were higher by $\$ 4.5$ million in the U.S. but flat internationally for the three-month periods. The sales growth in the U.S. was primarily attributable to the addition of new customers and improved penetration of several large customers.

Gross profit margins for the quarters ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 were $58.2 \%$ and $61.7 \%$, respectively. The first quarter of 2006 reflected lower gross profit margins in both the MRO and OEM segments. MRO segment gross profit margins declined to $65.8 \%$ in the first quarter of 2006 from $69.5 \%$ in the comparable quarter of 2005 . The 370 basis point net decrease is attributable to a change in sales mix related to the addition of Rutland sales and the lower gross profit margins in the Rutland business, more than off-setting a slight improvement in the gross profit margins of the other MRO businesses. OEM segment gross profit margins declined to $23.7 \%$ in the first quarter of 2006,270 basis points lower than the prior period’s $26.4 \%$. This decrease was principally due to price competition and higher product costs internationally.

## SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ("SG\&A") EXPENSES AND OPERATING INCOME

SG\&A expenses were $\$ 68.5$ million and $\$ 56.5$ million for the quarters ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Of the $\$ 12.0$ million increase, approximately $\$ 4.2$ million is attributable to SG\&A expenses incurred by Rutland. The prior year quarter did not reflect any SG\&A expenses related to Rutland. Of the remaining $\$ 7.8$ million increase in SG\&A expenses, approximately $\$ 1.7$ million is due to higher sales agent compensation resulting from the increase in sales.

The remaining $\$ 6.1$ million of higher SG\&A expenses in the first quarter 2006 is primarily due to higher employee compensation costs, which increased by $\$ 4.4$ million and $21.2 \%$ over the prior year, including $\$ 2.1$ million in performance based incentive cost increases. The remaining $\$ 2.3$ million of employee compensation increases for the first quarter 2006 were driven primarily by the addition of marketing and technology personnel. The Company also incurred legal expenses of $\$ 1.1$ million in the first quarter 2006 in connection with an ongoing investigation by the U.S. Attorney's office for the Northern District of Illinois related to whether Company sales representatives provided improper gifts or awards provided to purchasing agents (including government purchase agents) through the Company's customer loyalty programs. The Company did not incur such legal costs in the prior year period. As a result of the sales increases and the Company's ability to leverage its operating cost infrastructure over a larger revenue base, SG\&A expenses as a percent of net sales declined from $53.5 \%$ in the 2005 period to $51.9 \%$ of net sales in the 2006 period.

Operating income for the three-month period ended March 31, 2006 declined to $\$ 8.3$ million, from $\$ 8.7$ million in the same period of 2005 . This $\$ 0.4$ million decrease in operating income is principally attributable to higher SG\&A
expenses, more than offsetting higher gross profit margin dollars realized from increased net sales. The factors affecting these items were discussed above.

## INVESTMENT AND OTHER INCOME

The following table presents investment and other income for the quarters ended March 31, 2006 and 2005:

| (Dollars in millions) | 2006 | 2005 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Realized foreign exchange gains | \$0.4 | \$0.0 |
| Interest and other | 0.2 | 0.1 |
|  | \$0.6 | \$0.1 |

The realized foreign exchange gains for the three months ended March 31, 2006 were due to inter-company payments from a Canadian subsidiary.

## PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES

The effective tax rates for the quarters ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 were $40.0 \%$ and $40.3 \%$, respectively

## INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS BEFORE CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF ACCOUNTING CHANGE

Income from continuing operations before cumulative effect of accounting change for the first quarter of 2006 increased $2.1 \%$, to $\$ 5.3$ million ( $\$ .59$ per diluted share), compared to $\$ 5.2$ million ( $\$ .56$ per diluted share) in the comparable period of 2005.

The $\$ 0.1$ million increase is the result of slightly lower operating income in the first quarter 2006, but higher investment and other income and a slightly lower tax rate in 2006.

Diluted per share net income for 2006 and 2005 was positively affected by the Company's share repurchases. The diluted per share net income impact for 2006 over 2005 was $\$ 0.01$.

## INCOME FROM DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

Income from discontinued operations of less than $\$ 0.1$ million for the first quarter of 2006 reflects the impact of a partial settlement received from a former customer of the Company's discontinued UK operations. For the first quarter of 2005, a loss from discontinued operations of $\$ 0.3$ million reflects the impact of: (i) income of $\$ 0.2$ million from the Company's investment in Superior and Sedgwick Associates, a real estate partnership, and (ii) a loss of $\$ 0.5$ million from the operations of the UK subsidiary.

## CUMULATIVE ACCOUNTING CHANGE

The $\$ 0.4$ million cumulative accounting change represents the effect of adopting Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statement No. 123(R), "ShareBased Payment," which is a revision of FASB Statement No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation." See Note G to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

## LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Net cash provided by operations declined from $\$ 2.7$ million for the three months ended March 31, 2005 compared to net cash used in operations of $\$ 4.8$ million in the first quarter 2006. Net income was comparable over these periods; however, working capital cash usage was $\$ 6.8$ million higher in the first quarter 2006, driven primarily by higher compensation and other accrued expense payments in the first quarter 2006 versus the prior year. Net cash used in financing activities decreased by approximately $\$ 6.1$ million in the first quarter 2006, principally related to the absence of treasury stock purchases for the first three months of 2006. Approximately $\$ 5.7$ million was expended on share repurchases in the same quarter 2005. Working capital at March 31, 2006 was $\$ 117.6$ million as compared
to $\$ 115.4$ million at December 31, 2005. At March 31, 2006 the current ratio was 3.8 to 1 as compared to 3.2 to 1 at December 31, 2005.

Additions to property, plant and equipment were $\$ 1.3$ million and $\$ 0.8$ million, respectively, for the three-month periods ended March 31 , 2006 and 2005 . Capital expenditures in 2005 and 2006 were principally related to software development and the purchase of machinery and equipment. The Company expects to spend approximately \$12 million for capital expenditures in 2006.

The Company announced a cash dividend of $\$ .20$ per share on common shares in the first quarter of 2006, equal to the cash dividend of $\$ .20$ per share announced in the first quarter of 2005.

During the first three months of 2006, the Company did not purchase shares of its own common stock. In the first quarter of 2005, the Company purchased 117,972 shares of its own common stock for approximately $\$ 5.7$ million. Of those shares, 37,163 were purchased pursuant to the 2000 Board authorization for up to 500,000 shares and 80,809 shares were purchased pursuant to the October 2004 authorization for up to 500,000 shares. All shares purchased as of March 31, 2006 have been retired. Funds to purchase these shares were provided by cash and cash equivalents and net cash provided by operating activities. As of March 31, 2006, there were 202,801 shares remaining under the 2004 share repurchase authorization, and there is no expiration date relative to the 2004 share repurchase authorization.

Net cash provided by operating activities, current cash and cash equivalents and the $\$ 75,000,000$ unsecured revolving line of credit are expected to be sufficient to finance the Company's future growth, cash dividends and capital expenditures for the next 12 months.

## ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

There have been no material changes in market risk at March 31, 2006 from that reported in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005.

## ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

The Company's chief executive officer and chief financial officer have concluded, based on their evaluation as of the end of the period covered by this report, that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that the Company files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding financial disclosures. There was no change in the Company’s internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended March 31, 2006 that has materially affected or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Part II

## OTHER INFORMATION

Items 1, 1A, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are inapplicable and have been omitted from this report.
Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibits
15
Letter from Ernst \& Young LLP Regarding Unaudited Interim Financial Information
31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C.
Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

## 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 thereunto duly authorized.

## LAWSON PRODUCTS, INC. <br> (Registrant)

Dated May 10, 2006

Dated May 10, 2006
/s/ Robert J. Washlow
Robert J. Washlow
Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board
/s/ Scott F. Stephens
Scott F. Stephens
Chief Financial Officer

## Part I

May 1, 2006

Board of Directors
Lawson Products, Inc.

We are aware of the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement (Form S-8 No. 33-17912 dated November 4, 1987) of Lawson Products, Inc. and subsidiaries of our report dated May 1, 2006 relating to the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements of Lawson Products, Inc. and subsidiaries which are included in its Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2006.

Pursuant to Rule 436(c) of the Securities Act of 1933 our report is not part of the registration statement prepared or certified by accountants within the meaning of Section 7 or 11 of the Securities Act of 1933.

ERNST \& YOUNG LLP
Chicago, Illinois

## CERTIFICATIONS

## I, Robert J. Washlow, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Lawson Products, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) for the registrant and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
(a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
(b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
(c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
(d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
(a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
(b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 10, 2006
/s/ Robert J. Washlow

## Robert J. Washlow

Chief Executive Officer

## CERTIFICATIONS

## I, Scott F. Stephens, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Lawson Products, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) for the registrant and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
(a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
(b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
(c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
(d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
(a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
(b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 10, 2006

## /s/ Scott F. Stephens

## Scott F. Stephens

Chief Financial Officer

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350 AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report of Lawson Products, Inc. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ending March 31, 2006 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), the undersigned Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of the Company hereby certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. $\S 1350$, as adopted pursuant to $\S 906$ of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 that based on their knowledge: 1) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and 2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company as of and for the periods covered in the Report.
/s/ Robert J. Washlow
Robert J. Washlow, Chief Executive Officer
/s/ Scott F. Stephens
Scott F. Stephens
Chief Financial Officer

May 10, 2006


[^0]:    See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

