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INTERTAPE POLYMER GROUP INC
Form 6-K
March 12, 2002

Form 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Issuer
Pursuant to Rule 13a - 16 or 15d - 16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Intertape Polymer Group Inc. Announces December 2001 Annual Results

Intertape Polymer Group Inc.

110E Montee de Liesse, St. Laurent, Quebec, Canada, H4T 1N4

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file
quarterly reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F

Form 20-F Form 40-F

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information
contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the
Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No

(If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant
in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b):

SIGNATURE

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.

Intertape Polymer Group Inc.

March 8, 2002

By: /s/ Andrew Archibald

Andrew Archibald
Chief Financial Officer
Intertape Polymer Group Inc.

MARCH 8, 2002

NYSE SYMBOL: ITP
TSE SYMBOL: ITP

INTERTAPE POLYMER GROUP INC.
ANNOUNCES DECEMBER 2001
ANNUAL RESULTS

(stated in U.S. dollars)
(reported using Cdn GAAP other than as noted)

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Montreal, Quebec, Canada - March 8, 2002 - Intertape Polymer Group Inc. (IPG), a leader in the packaging industry, announced today the results for its fiscal year ending December 31, 2001. Details of the annual results are as follows:

Revenue for the fourth quarter of 2001 was \$146.2 million as compared to \$151.0 million for the same period of 2000. For the full year, revenue was \$594.9 million compared to \$654.0 million for 2000.

Lower sales volumes reflected a decline in consumption of packaging materials in general and an average of approximately 3% reduction in selling prices. Export sales were approximately \$15 million less than the previous year as the Company exited certain unprofitable markets.

Melbourne F. Yull, Chairman and CEO stated "'Despite some early indications of improvement in North America's economic environment, we remain cautious about the rate of recovery in our business volumes. We do expect to see benefits from our continuing programs of reducing debt and lowering costs as well as from new product sales and our distribution strategy.'"

The Company recorded a net loss of \$1.0 million (\$6.5 million before income taxes) for the fourth quarter of 2001 as compared to net earnings of \$3.6 million (\$4.5 million loss before income taxes) for the same period of 2000. The drop in revenue resulted in a decline in gross profit of \$2.4 million. Interest costs were \$2.3 million higher for the fourth quarter of 2001 as compared to that of 2000. These items were partially offset by lower selling, general and administrative and other costs of \$2.7 million.

The Company recorded a net loss of \$12.2 million (\$22.6 million before income taxes) for the year 2001, as compared to net earnings of \$33.4 million (\$36.9 million before income taxes) for the year 2000. The drop in revenue resulted in a decline in gross profit of \$27.9 million. In addition, \$6.7 million of non-recurring charges were recorded during the first three quarters related to the establishment of Regional Distribution Centers, severance and inventory write downs. Selling, general and administrative costs increased \$8.2 million which included the effect of non-recurring charges amounting to \$10.0 million recorded in the nine month period ended September 2001 relating to additional bad debt reserves and severance reserves. Interest costs for 2001 increased by \$11.7 million as compared to 2000, primarily as a result of a \$6.7 million charge relating to the Company's recently completed debt refinancing.

Earnings Per Share (EPS) for the three month period ending December 2001, both basic and fully diluted under both US and Canadian GAAP, were a loss of \$0.03 as compared to a profit of \$0.13 for the same period ending 2000. For the twelve-month period ending December 2001, under both US and Canadian GAAP, EPS was a loss of \$0.43 as compared to a profit of \$1.18 for the same period ending 2000. On a fully diluted basis, EPS under Cdn and US GAAP were a loss of US\$ 0.43 compared to a profit of \$1.16 for both Cdn and US GAAP in the same period last year.

The Company completed the issue of 5.1 million common shares on March 1st, generating net proceeds of US\$47.2 million. These proceeds were used to reduce debt. It is expected that the stock offering will not be dilutive for 2002.

The Company will hold a Conference Call on Monday, March 11, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. EST to discuss its business performance. The Conference Call can be accessed by dialing 1-888-273-9890. The International dial in number is 612-332-1020. A replay of the call will be available until Monday, March 18 2001 at 11:59 p.m. EST. To access the playback, dial 1-800-475-6701 for North America domestic or 1-320-365-3844. Mention access code 630032. The Company will simultaneously Web Broadcast its Conference Call. Access the Web Cast via Intertape Polymer Group's web site at:www.intertapepolymer.com/report.html

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Intertape Polymer Group Inc. develops, manufactures and markets a wide variety of specialized polyolefin plastic and paper based packaging products and systems for industrial and retail use. The Company was founded in 1981 and is based in Montreal, Quebec and Sarasota, Florida with manufacturing facilities in twenty North American and European locations.

Certain statements and information set forth in this release, as well as other written or oral statements made from time to time by the Company or by its authorized executive officers on its behalf, constitute "'forward-looking statements'" within the meaning of the United States Federal Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The Company intends for its forward-looking statements to be covered by the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

The reader should note that the Company's forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this media release or when made and the Company undertakes no duty or obligation to update or revise its forward-looking statements. Although management believes that the expectations, plans, intentions and projections reflected in its forward-looking statements are reasonable, such statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the Company's actual results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements.

The risks, uncertainties and other factors that the Company's stockholders and prospective investors should consider include, but are not limited to, the following: risks associated with pricing, volume and continued strength of markets where the Company's products are sold; delays and disruptions associated with terrorist attacks and reprisals, political instability, heightened security and war in countries of the world that affect the Company's business; the effect of competition on the Company's ability to maintain margins on existing or acquired operations; and other risk factors listed from time to time in the Company's reports (including its Annual Report on Form 40-F) filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melbourne F. Yull
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Intertape Polymer Group Inc.
Tel: (941) 7237-5788
E-mail: itp\$info@intertapeipg.com
Web: www.intertapepolymer.com

INTERTAPE POLYMER GROUP INC.

CONSOLIDATED EARNINGS

For the period ended December 31,

(In thousands of US dollars, except per share amounts)

	Three Months		Twelve Months	
	2001	2000	2001	2000
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	\$	\$	\$	
Sales	146,175	150,970	594,905	653,
Cost of sales	118,906	121,305	476,089	500,
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Gross profit	27,269	29,665	118,816	153,

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Selling, general and administrative expenses	21,558	23,863	91,343	83,
Amortization of goodwill	1,717	1,805	7,014	6,
Research and development	932	1,302	4,182	5,
Financial expenses	9,527	7,213	38,911	27,
Gain on sale of interest in joint venture				(5,
	33,734	34,183	141,450	116,
Earnings (loss) before income taxes	(6,465)	(4,518)	(22,634)	36,
Income taxes	(5,455)	(8,103)	(10,392)	3,
Net earnings (loss)	(1,010)	3,585	(12,242)	33,
Earnings (Loss) Per Share - Basic	(0.03)	0.13	(0.43)	1
Earnings (Loss) Per Share - Diluted	(0.03)	0.13	(0.43)	1

INTERTAPE POLYMER GROUP INC.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
December 31,
(In thousands of US dollars)

ASSETS

Current assets

Trade receivables (net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$6,670; \$10,300 in 2000)	86,529
Other receivables	13,654
Inventories	70,688
Parts and supplies	11,592
Prepaid expenses	9,450
Future income tax assets	4,025

Capital assets

Other assets	195,938
Goodwill, at amortized cost	366,567

	11,680
	227,804
	801,989

LIABILITIES

Current liabilities

Bank indebtedness	28,046
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	91,507
Instalments on long-term debt	8,310

Future income taxes

	127,863
	21,588

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Long-term debt	354,663
Other liabilities	3,785

	507,899

SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	
Capital stock and share purchase warrants	189,496
Retained earnings	104,567
Accumulated foreign currency translation adjustments	27

	294,090

	801,989
	=====

INTERTAPE POLYMER GROUP INC.

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOWS

For the period ended December 31,
(In thousands of US dollars)

	2001	2000
	-----	-----
	\$	\$
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net earnings (loss)	(12,242)	33,422
Non-cash items		
Depreciation and amortization	33,831	27,934
Future income taxes	(9,165)	482
Write-off of debt issue expenses	2,165	
Write-off of capital assets		1,594
Other non-cash items	(715)	(5,500)
	-----	-----
Cash from operations before changes in non-cash working capital items	13,874	57,932
	-----	-----
Changes in non-cash working capital items		
Trade receivables	10,337	(6,897)
Other receivables	(1,287)	3,003
Inventories	17,690	3,318
Parts and supplies	(1,626)	175
Prepaid expenses	(3,341)	(1,809)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	12,431	(15,697)
	-----	-----
	34,204	(17,907)
	-----	-----
Cash flows from operating activities	48,078	40,025
	-----	-----
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Acquisitions of businesses		(28,195)
Capital assets, net of investment tax credits	(25,942)	(48,142)

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Proceeds on sale of capital assets	8,000	4,239
Other assets	(8,592)	17,637
	-----	-----
Cash flows from investing activities	(26,534)	(54,461)
	-----	-----
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Net change in bank indebtedness	(99,261)	26,468
Issue of long-term debt	86,400	
Repayment of long-term debt	(9,634)	(2,249)
Issue of common shares	3,379	176
Common shares purchased for cancellation	(922)	(4,194)
Dividends paid		(3,006)
	-----	-----
Cash flows from financing activities	(20,038)	17,195
	-----	-----
Net increase in cash position	1,506	2,759
Effect of foreign currency translation adjustments	(1,506)	(2,759)
	-----	-----
Cash position, beginning and end of year	--	--
	=====	=====