

AMERICAN AXLE & MANUFACTURING HOLDINGS INC
Form 10-Q
April 25, 2008

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

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2008

or

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number: 1-14303

AMERICAN AXLE & MANUFACTURING HOLDINGS, INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware 36-3161171
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
Organization)

One Dauch Drive, Detroit, Michigan 48211-1198
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(313) 758-2000
(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

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 No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definition of "accelerated filer," "large accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

As of April 22, 2008, the latest practicable date, the number of shares of the registrant's Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share, outstanding was 54,185,000 shares.

Internet Website Access to Reports

The website for American Axle & Manufacturing Holdings, Inc. is www.aam.com. Our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act are available free of charge through our website as soon as reasonably practicable after they are electronically filed with, or furnished to, the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Securities and Exchange Commission also maintains a website at www.sec.gov that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC.

AMERICAN AXLE & MANUFACTURING HOLDINGS, INC.
 FORM 10-Q
 FOR THE QUARTER ENDED MARCH 31, 2008
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FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

In this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, we make statements concerning our expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, goals, strategies, and future events or performance. Such statements are “forward-looking” statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and relate to trends and events that may affect our future financial position and operating results. The terms such as “will,” “may,” “could,” “would,” “plan,” “believe,” “expect,” “anticipate,” “intend,” “project,” and similar words of expressions, as well as statements in future tense, are intended to identify forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements should not be read as a guarantee of future performance or results, and will not necessarily be accurate indications of the times at, or by, which such performance or results will be achieved. Forward-looking statements are based on information available at the time those statements are made and/or management’s good faith belief as of that time with respect to future events and are subject to risks and differ materially from those expressed in or suggested by the forward-looking statements. Important factors that could cause such differences include, but are not limited to:

- the effects of the strike called by the International United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America on February 25, 2008;
 - our ability to restore and maintain satisfactory labor relations and avoid future work stoppages;
 - our suppliers’ ability to maintain satisfactory labor relations and avoid work stoppages;
 - our customers’ and their suppliers’ ability to maintain satisfactory labor relations and avoid work stoppages;
 - our ability to improve our U.S. labor cost structure;
- reduced purchases of our products by General Motors Corporation (GM), Chrysler LLC (Chrysler) or other customers;
- reduced demand for our customers’ products (particularly light trucks and SUVs produced by GM and Chrysler);
 - our ability to achieve cost reductions through ongoing restructuring actions;
 - additional restructuring actions that may occur;
 - our ability to achieve the level of cost reductions required to sustain global cost competitiveness;
 - our ability to consummate and integrate acquisitions;
 - supply shortages or price increases in raw materials, utilities or other operating supplies;
- our ability or our customers’ and suppliers’ ability to successfully launch new product programs on a timely basis;
 - our ability to realize the expected revenues from our new and incremental business backlog;
 - our ability to attract new customers and programs for new products;
 - our ability to develop and produce new products that reflect market demand;
 - our ability to respond to changes in technology, increased competition or pricing pressures;
- adverse changes in laws, government regulations or market conditions including increases in fuel prices affecting our products or our customers’ products (such as the Corporate Average Fuel Economy regulations);
- adverse changes in the economic conditions or political stability of our principal markets (particularly North America, Europe, South America and Asia);
- liabilities arising from warranty claims, product liability and legal proceedings to which we are or may become a party;
 - changes in liabilities arising from pension and other postretirement benefit obligations;
- risks of noncompliance with environmental regulations or risks of environmental issues that could result in unforeseen costs at our facilities;
- availability of financing for working capital, capital expenditures, R&D or other general corporate purposes, including our ability to comply with financial covenants;
 - our ability to attract and retain key associates;
 - other unanticipated events and conditions that may hinder our ability to compete.

It is not possible to foresee or identify all such factors and we make no commitment to update any forward-looking statement or to disclose any facts, events or circumstances after the date hereof that may affect the accuracy of any forward-looking statement.

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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

AMERICAN AXLE & MANUFACTURING HOLDINGS, INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
 (Unaudited)

	Three months ended	
	March 31,	
	2008	2007
	(in millions, except per share data)	
Net sales	\$ 587.6	\$ 802.2
Cost of goods sold	574.9	716.9
Gross profit	12.7	85.3
Selling, general and administrative expenses	49.4	48.9
Operating income (loss)	(36.7)	36.4
Net interest expense	(12.7)	(14.0)
Other income, net	0.5	0.1
Income (loss) before income taxes	(48.9)	22.5
Income tax expense (benefit)	(21.9)	6.8
Net income (loss)	\$ (27.0)	\$ 15.7
Basic earnings (loss) per share	\$ (0.52)	\$ 0.31
Diluted earnings (loss) per share	\$ (0.52)	\$ 0.30
Dividends declared per share	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.15

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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AMERICAN AXLE & MANUFACTURING HOLDINGS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	March 31, 2008 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2007
(in millions)		
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 315.5	\$ 343.6
Accounts receivable, net	187.3	264.0
Inventories, net	248.3	242.8
Prepaid expenses and other	74.4	73.4
Deferred income taxes	17.7	19.5
Total current assets	843.2	943.3
Property, plant and equipment, net	1,678.8	1,696.2
Deferred income taxes	104.5	78.7
Goodwill	147.8	147.8
Other assets and deferred charges	55.3	57.4
Total assets	\$ 2,829.6	\$ 2,923.4
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 266.6	\$ 313.8
Accrued compensation and benefits	102.3	126.6
Other accrued expenses	66.3	71.2
Total current liabilities	435.2	511.6
Long-term debt	864.1	858.1
Deferred income taxes	6.4	6.6
Postretirement benefits and other long-term liabilities	646.7	647.7
Total liabilities	1,952.4	2,024.0
Stockholders' equity		
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share	0.6	0.6
Paid-in capital	419.7	416.3
Retained earnings	556.9	591.9
Treasury stock at cost, 5.2 million shares in 2008 and 2007	(173.9)	(173.8)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax		
Defined benefit plans	40.9	33.5
Foreign currency translation adjustments	37.7	34.2
Unrecognized loss on derivatives	(4.7)	(3.3)
Total stockholders' equity	877.2	899.4
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 2,829.6	\$ 2,923.4

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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AMERICAN AXLE & MANUFACTURING HOLDINGS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Unaudited)

	Three months ended	
	March 31,	
	2008	2007
	(in millions)	
Operating activities		
Net income (loss)	\$ (27.0)	\$ 15.7
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation and amortization	56.6	56.4
Deferred income taxes	(27.2)	3.9
Stock-based compensation	3.6	4.8
Pensions and other postretirement benefits, net of contributions	12.4	14.8
Loss on retirement of equipment	0.3	1.1
Changes in operating assets and liabilities		
Accounts receivable	78.1	(94.3)
Inventories	(5.1)	(18.1)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(84.0)	21.3
Other assets and liabilities	0.5	4.2
Net cash provided by operating activities	8.2	9.8
Investing activities		
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(33.3)	(42.5)
Net cash used in investing activities	(33.3)	(42.5)
Financing activities		
Net borrowings (repayments) under revolving credit facilities	1.9	(130.3)
Payments of long-term debt and capital lease obligations	(0.4)	(0.3)
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	3.3	300.0
Debt issuance costs	-	(5.2)
Repurchase of treasury stock	(0.1)	-
Employee stock option exercises	0.1	3.7
Tax benefit on stock option exercises	0.2	0.7
Dividends paid	(8.0)	(7.8)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(3.0)	160.8
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	-	0.3
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(28.1)	128.4
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	343.6	13.5
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 315.5	\$ 141.9
Supplemental cash flow information		

Interest paid	\$	25.2	\$	17.4
Income taxes paid, net of refunds	\$	0.7	\$	6.7

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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AMERICAN AXLE & MANUFACTURING HOLDINGS, INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
March 31, 2008
(Unaudited)

1. ORGANIZATION AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Organization American Axle & Manufacturing Holdings, Inc. (Holdings) and its subsidiaries (collectively, we, our, us or AAM) is a Tier I supplier to the automotive industry. We manufacture, engineer, design and validate driveline and drivetrain systems and related components and chassis modules for trucks, sport utility vehicles (SUVs), passenger cars and crossover utility vehicles. Driveline and drivetrain systems include components that transfer power from the transmission and deliver it to the drive wheels. Our driveline, drivetrain and related products include axles, chassis modules, driveshafts, power transfer units, transfer cases, chassis and steering components, driving heads, crankshafts, transmission parts and metal-formed products. In addition to locations in the United States (U.S.) (Michigan, New York, Ohio and Indiana), we have offices or facilities in Brazil, China, England, Germany, India, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Poland, Scotland, South Korea and Thailand.

Basis of Presentation We have prepared the accompanying interim condensed consolidated financial statements in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These condensed consolidated financial statements are unaudited but include all normal recurring adjustments, which we consider necessary for a fair presentation of the information set forth herein. Results of operations for the periods presented are not necessarily indicative of the results for the full fiscal year.

The balance sheet at December 31, 2007 presented herein has been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements at that date but does not include all of the information and footnotes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) for complete consolidated financial statements.

In order to prepare the accompanying interim condensed consolidated financial statements, we are required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts and disclosures in our interim condensed consolidated financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

For further information, refer to the audited consolidated financial statements and notes included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007.

Change in Accounting Principle On January 1, 2008, we changed the method for costing our U.S. inventories from the last-in, first-out (LIFO) method to the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method. As of December 31, 2007, the U.S. inventories for which the LIFO method of costing inventory was applied represented approximately 25% of total gross inventories. This change enhances the matching of inventory costs with revenues and better reflects the current cost of inventory on our consolidated balance sheet. Additionally, this change conforms all of our worldwide inventories to a consistent inventory costing method and provides better comparability to our industry peers, most of whom use the FIFO method of costing for inventory. In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 154, "Accounting Changes and Error Corrections," the change in accounting principle has been retrospectively applied to all prior periods presented herein.

AMERICAN AXLE & MANUFACTURING HOLDINGS, INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

We have presented the effects of the change in accounting for inventory costing to the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of March 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007 and the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Cash Flows for the three months ended March 31, 2007. The impact of this change on the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Cash Flows for the three months ended March 31, 2008 was not material. We have condensed the comparative financial statements for financial statement line items that were not affected by the change in accounting principle.

Condensed Consolidated Statement of
Operations
Three months ended March 31, 2007
(in millions)

	As originally reported	Adjustments to change from LIFO to FIFO	As adjusted and reported under FIFO
Net sales	\$ 802.2	\$ -	\$ 802.2
Cost of goods sold	717.4	(0.5)	716.9
Gross profit	84.8	0.5	85.3
Selling general and administrative expenses	48.9	-	48.9
Operating income	35.9	0.5	36.4
Other income (expense), net	(13.9)	-	(13.9)
Income before income taxes	22.0	0.5	22.5
Income tax expense	6.6	0.2	6.8
Net income	15.4	0.3	15.7
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.31
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 0.30	\$ -	\$ 0.30

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet
December 31, 2007
(in millions)

	As originally reported	Adjustments to change from LIFO to FIFO	As adjusted and reported under FIFO
Assets			
Current assets			
Inventories	\$ 229.0	\$ 13.8	\$ 242.8
Deferred income taxes	24.6	(5.1)	19.5
Other current assets	681.0	-	681.0
Total current assets	934.6	8.7	943.3
Other assets	1,980.1	-	1,980.1

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Total assets	\$	2,914.7	\$	8.7	\$	2,923.4
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity						
Total liabilities	\$	2,024.0	\$	-	\$	2,024.0
Stockholders' equity						
Retained earnings		583.2		8.7		591.9
Other stockholders' equity		307.5		-		307.5
Total stockholders' equity		890.7		8.7		899.4
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$	2,914.7	\$	8.7	\$	2,923.4

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AMERICAN AXLE & MANUFACTURING HOLDINGS, INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

Three months ended March 31, 2007

(in millions)

	As originally reported	Adjustments to change from LIFO to FIFO	As adjusted and reported under FIFO
Operating Activities			
Net income	\$ 15.4	\$ 0.3	\$ 15.7
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities			
Deferred income taxes	3.7	0.2	3.9
Changes in operating assets and liabilities			
Inventories	(17.6)	(0.5)	(18.1)
Other changes in operating assets and liabilities	(68.8)	-	(68.8)
Other adjustments	77.1	-	77.1
Net cash provided by operating activities	9.8	-	9.8
Investing Activities			
Net cash used in investing activities	(42.5)	-	(42.5)
Financing Activities			
Net cash provided by financing activities	160.8	-	160.8
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	0.3	-	0.3
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	\$ 128.4	\$ -	\$ 128.4

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet

March 31, 2008

(in millions)

	As calculated using LIFO for U.S. inventories	Difference between LIFO and FIFO	As reported using FIFO
Assets			
Current Assets			
Inventories	\$ 234.5	\$ 13.8	\$ 248.3
Deferred income taxes	22.8	(5.1)	17.7
Other current assets	577.2	-	577.2
Total current assets	834.5	8.7	843.2
Other assets	1,986.4	-	1,986.4

Total assets	\$ 2,820.9	\$ 8.7	\$ 2,829.6
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity			
Total liabilities	\$ 1,952.4	\$ -	\$ 1,952.4
Stockholders' equity			
Retained earnings	548.2	8.7	556.9
Other stockholders' equity	320.3	-	320.3
Total stockholders' equity	868.5	8.7	877.2
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 2,820.9	\$ 8.7	\$ 2,829.6

The application of this change in accounting increased retained earnings by \$8.7 million as of January 1, 2007.

AMERICAN AXLE & MANUFACTURING HOLDINGS, INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Effect of New Accounting Standards In September 2006, the FASB issued Statement No. 157 (SFAS 157), "Fair Value Measurements." This statement clarifies the definition of fair value and establishes a fair value hierarchy. SFAS 157, as originally issued, was effective for us on January 1, 2008. In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position (FSP) FAS 157-b, which defers the effective date of SFAS 157 for nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities, except for items that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in an entity's financial statements on a recurring basis. The effective date for us under this FSP is January 1, 2009. As allowed by FSP FAS 157-b, we partially adopted SFAS 157 on January 1, 2008 and the impact of adoption was not significant. We do not expect the impact of applying SFAS 157 to the remaining assets and liabilities on January 1, 2009 to be material.

On a recurring basis, we measure our derivatives at fair value, which was a net liability of \$7.5 million as of March 31, 2008. The fair value of these derivatives was determined using Level 2 inputs, as described in SFAS 157.

In February 2007, the FASB issued Statement No. 159 (SFAS 159), "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities." This statement permits entities to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value that are not currently required to be measured at fair value. SFAS 159 was effective for us on January 1, 2008 and we did not elect to measure any additional assets or liabilities at fair value.

In December 2007, the FASB issued Statement No. 160 (SFAS 160), "Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements — An Amendment of ARB No. 51." SFAS 160 establishes new accounting and reporting standards for the noncontrolling interest in a subsidiary. SFAS 160 is effective for us on January 1, 2009. We are currently assessing the impact of adopting this statement.

2. LABOR RELATIONS

On February 25, 2008, the four-year master labor agreement between AAM and the International United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW) covering approximately 3,650 associates at five facilities in Michigan and New York expired. The International UAW called a strike at these facilities upon expiration of this agreement. As of March 31, 2008, the strike remained in effect. Although it is not possible to predict the nature and timing of a resolution between AAM and the International UAW, a resolution could have a significant impact on our future results of operations, financial position and liquidity.

3. RESTRUCTURING ACTIONS

In 2008, we incurred charges in cost of sales for ongoing restructuring actions. In addition, we continued to make payments related to the charges incurred in 2007 and 2006. At December 31, 2007, our liability related to these restructuring actions was \$22.5 million.

A summary of the restructuring related activity for the three months ended March 31, 2008 is shown below (in millions):

	One-time Termination Benefits	Redeployment of Assets	Environmental Obligations	Total
Accrual as of December 31, 2007	\$ 20.3	\$ -	\$ 2.2	\$ 22.5
Charges	-	3.9	-	3.9
Cash utilization	(9.2)	(3.9)	(0.1)	(13.2)

Non-cash utilization and accrual adjustments		(0.4)		-		-		(0.4)
Accrual as of March 31, 2008	\$	10.7	\$	-	\$	2.1	\$	12.8

In the first quarter of 2008, we incurred \$3.9 million of charges related to the redeployment of assets to support capacity utilization initiatives.

We expect a majority of the remaining restructuring accrual to be paid in 2008 and the remainder to be paid through 2012.

AMERICAN AXLE & MANUFACTURING HOLDINGS, INC.
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

4. INVENTORIES

We state our inventories at the lower of cost or market. In the first quarter of 2008, we changed the method of accounting for our U.S. inventories from the LIFO method to the FIFO method as discussed in Note 1. The cost of worldwide inventories is determined using the FIFO method. We classify indirect inventories, which include perishable tooling, machine repair parts and other materials consumed in the manufacturing process but not incorporated into our finished products, as raw materials. When we determine that our gross inventories exceed usage requirements, or if inventories become obsolete or otherwise not saleable, we record a provision for such loss as a component of our inventory accounts.

Inventories consist of the following:

	March 31, 2008	December 31, 2007
(in millions)		
Raw materials and work-in-progress	\$ 230.9	\$ 230.5
Finished goods	58.3	52.6
Gross inventories	289.2	283.1
Other inventory valuation reserves	(40.9)	(40.3)
Inventories, net	\$ 248.3	\$ 242.8

5. LONG-TERM DEBT

Long-term debt consists of the following:

	March 31, 2008	December 31, 2007
(in millions)		
Revolving Credit Facility	\$ -	\$ -
7.875% Notes	300.0	300.0
5.25% Notes, net of discount	249.8	249.8
2.00% Convertible Notes	2.7	2.7
Term Loan due 2012	250.0	250.0
Uncommitted lines of credit	-	-
Foreign credit facilities	52.9	46.7
Capital lease obligations	8.7	8.9
Long-term debt	\$ 864.1	\$ 858.1

The Revolving Credit Facility provides up to \$600.0 million of revolving bank financing commitments through April 2010 and bears interest at rates based on LIBOR or an alternate base rate, plus an applicable margin. At March 31, 2008, we had \$572.3 million available under the Revolving Credit Facility. This availability reflects a reduction of \$27.7 million for standby letters of credit issued against the facility.