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IONICS INC
Form 8-K
May 11, 2004

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 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) May 10, 2004

IONICS, INCORPORATED
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Massachusetts
(State of incorporation)

65 Grove Street, Watertown, MA
(Address of principal executive offices)

1-7211
(Commission File No.)

02472
(Zip Code)

04-20
(IRS Employer Id

(617) 9
(Registrant's t
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Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits

Exhibit Number Description

99 Press Release dated May 10, 2004, reporting the financial results of Ionics, Incorporated for the quarter ended March 31, 2004.

Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On May 10, 2004, Ionics, Incorporated issued a press release reporting its financial results for the quarter ended March 31, 2004. A copy of the Press Release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99 and is hereby incorporated by reference.

SIGNATURES

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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 duly authorized.

IONICS, INCORPORATED

May 10, 2004

By: /s/Stephen Korn

Name: Stephen Korn

Title: Vice President and General Counsel

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EXHIBIT INDEX

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99	Press release dated May 10, 2004, reporting the financial results of Ionics, Incorporated for the quarter ended March 31, 2004.	4

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EXHIBIT 99

IONICS REPORTS RESULTS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2004

Watertown, MA, May 10, 2004 . . . Ionics, Incorporated (NYSE-ION) today reported results for the three-month period ended March 31, 2004. First quarter revenues were \$107.4 million compared to \$82.6 million for the first quarter of 2003. The net loss of \$4.0 million, or (\$0.19) per share, in Q1 2004 compared to net income of \$0.6 million, or \$0.03 per share, for Q1 2003. For continuing operations, the loss per share of (\$0.06) in Q1 2004 compares to earnings per share of \$0.05 in Q1 2003. Excluding amortization of intangibles, loss per share for continuing operations of (\$0.03) compares to earnings per share of \$0.06 in the first quarter of 2003.

The results for the first quarter include a \$3.3 million charge related to Carmel Desalination Limited (CDL), an Israeli project company in which Ionics holds a 33 1/3% ownership interest. Other items included in the results were \$0.6 million of restructuring charges and \$0.6 million in systems development charges.

Also included are the consolidated results of the Ecolochem Group (acquired on February 13, 2004), and Desalcott (Desalination Company of Trinidad and Tobago Ltd.), the Company's 40% owned joint venture in Trinidad. Desalcott's results were included in the consolidated results of the Company in accordance with the provisions of FIN46. Ecolochem revenues from February 14 through the end of the quarter were \$11.9 million, and Desalcott revenues for the full quarter were \$6.9 million.

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The CDL charge was taken as a result of the Israel Water Desalination Agency's ("WDA") notification of its intent to terminate the concession agreement with CDL. As a result, the Company recorded a charge including all assets and liabilities related to this project. The majority of the charge (\$2.5 million) relates to the Company's pro rata portion of CDL's performance bond, upon which the WDA has made a demand. Commenting on the dispute between CDL and the WDA, Douglas Brown, Ionics' CEO stated, "In our view, the failure of the CDL project was due to the failure of the Israeli government to fulfill its obligations. Among other things, the water project included a power plant which the WDA approved with our original contract award. Subsequently, the government declined the permit for the power plant, thereby substantially damaging the project's economics. Therefore, CDL has made a claim against the government, which, if successful, would allow Ionics to recover the charge we have taken this quarter. Ionics and our Israeli partners in CDL intend to vigorously pursue the recovery of these funds." The dispute between CDL and the WDA has been submitted to binding arbitration in Israel, with final resolution anticipated in the third quarter of 2004.

Backlog at the end of the first quarter was \$464.1 million and included the backlog of Ecolochem of \$52.5 million, and the net backlog of Desalcott of \$93.7 million.

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Ionics will host a conference call tomorrow, Tuesday, May 11, 2004 at 10:30AM, EDT to discuss its first quarter financial results. This conference call will be accessible on the Company's home page, at <http://www.shareholder.com/ion/medialist.cfm>. Recorded replays of the financial results conference call will be available on the web site for a one-week period beginning later that day.

About Ionics, Inc.

Ionics is a global leader in water purification and wastewater treatment. The Company has over 50 years of experience in the design, installation, operation and maintenance of water and wastewater treatment systems and is a leading provider of emergency and long-term water treatment services. More membrane-based desalination systems have been designed and built by Ionics than any other supplier worldwide. Ionics is also a leader in supplying zero-liquid-discharge systems, in providing ultrapure water systems for the power and microelectronics industries, and in the measurement and analysis of water impurities. The Company also supplies Point-of-Use and Point-of-Entry water treatment systems for commercial and residential applications. For more information, visit www.ionics.com.

Safe-harbor statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Forward-looking statements in this news release involve risk and uncertainty. The statements contained in this release which are not historical facts are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are based on management's current views and assumptions and are neither promises nor guarantees but are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from management's current expectations as described in such forward-looking statements, including overall economic and business conditions; competitive factors, such as acceptance of new products, pricing pressures and competition from competitors larger than the Company; risks of nonpayment of accounts receivable, including those from affiliated companies; risks associated with foreign operations; technological and product

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development risks; availability of manufacturing capacity; risks associated with the Company's restructuring program announced in September 2003; risks associated with the integration of Ecolochem's operations with those of the Company; and other factors described in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including its annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003. You should not place undue reliance on the forward-looking statements in this press release, and the Company disavows any obligation to update or supplement those statements in the event of any changes in the facts, circumstances, or expectations that underlie those statements.

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IONICS REPORTS FIRST QUARTER RESULTS

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(Amounts in thousands, except per share amounts)

	Three months ended March 31,	
	2004	2003
Revenues:		
Equipment Sales	\$ 33,430	\$ 29,552
Operations	52,406	27,682
Consumer Water	5,721	5,200
Instruments	8,751	8,379
Affiliated companies	7,115	11,777
	107,423	82,590
Costs and expenses:		
Cost of sales of Equipment Sales	27,873	22,642
Cost of sales of Operations	34,548	19,133
Cost of sales of Consumer Water	2,405	2,238
Cost of sales of Instruments	4,006	3,589
Cost of sales to affiliated companies	6,110	10,217
Research and development	1,531	1,777
Selling, general and administrative	29,023	21,674
Restructuring charges	564	-
	106,060	81,270
Income from continuing operations	1,363	1,320
Interest (expense) income, net	(3,322)	556
Equity income (loss)	490	(101)

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(Loss) income from continuing operations before income tax and minority interest expense	(1,469)	1,775
Income tax benefit (expense)	470	(624)
(Loss) income from continuing operations before minority interest expense	(999)	1,151
Minority interest expense	253	198
(Loss) income from continuing operations	(1,252)	953
Loss on discontinued operations, net of tax	(2,699)	(377)
Net (loss) income	\$ (3,951)	\$ 576
Basic (loss) earnings per share from continuing operations	\$ (0.06)	\$ 0.05
Basic loss per share from discontinued operations	(0.13)	(0.02)
Basic net (loss) earnings per share	\$ (0.19)	\$ 0.03
Diluted (loss) earnings per share from continuing operations	\$ (0.06)	\$ 0.05
Diluted loss per share from discontinued operations	(0.13)	(0.02)
Diluted net (loss) earnings per share	\$ (0.19)	\$ 0.03
Shares used in basic (loss) earnings per share calculations	20,322	17,555
Shares used in diluted (loss) earnings per share calculations	20,322	17,562
Backlog	\$464,062	\$348,488

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Other Data:

Three months ended
March 31,

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	2004	2003
	-----	-----
Reconciliation of net (loss) income from continuing operations to EBITA from continuing operations:		
(Loss) income from continuing operations	\$ (1,252)	\$ 953
Add back:		
Amortization of intangibles, net of tax	725	51
	-----	-----
EBITA (loss) income from continuing operations	\$ (527)	\$ 1,004
	=====	=====
Diluted (loss) income per share from continuing operations	\$ (0.06)	\$ 0.05
Add back:		
Amortization of intangibles, net of tax	0.04	0.00
	-----	-----
EBITA diluted (loss) income per share from continuing operations	\$ (0.03)	\$ 0.06
	=====	=====

Management believes that the diluted (loss) earnings per share from continuing operations excluding the amortization of intangibles is a key performance indicator, because the amortization charge is non cash and relates essentially to the Ecolochem transaction.

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IONICS REPORTS FIRST QUARTER RESULTS

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Amounts in thousands)

	March 31, 2004	December 31, 2003
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Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 68,002	\$ 133,815
Restricted cash	18,730	-
Short-term investments	679	-
Notes receivable, current	7,810	6,365
Accounts receivable, net	106,071	87,415
Receivables from affiliated companies	13,787	22,140
Inventories	30,294	24,716
Assets from discontinued operations	2,976	7,466
Other current assets	50,915	33,901

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Total current assets	299,264	315,818
Receivables from affiliated companies, long-term	10,046	20,915
Notes receivable, long-term, net	28,700	28,408
Investments in affiliated companies	11,042	14,362
Property, plant and equipment, net	399,411	171,785
Goodwill	183,435	7,695
Intangible assets, net	79,830	6,378
Other assets	31,010	26,616
	-----	-----
Total assets	\$ 1,042,738	\$ 591,977
	=====	=====
Current liabilities:		
Notes payable and current portion of long-term debt	\$ 9,129	\$ 6,276
Accounts payable	36,429	28,279
Billings in advance from affiliated companies	-	3,629
Liabilities from discontinued operations	239	396
Other current liabilities	88,968	79,512
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities	134,765	118,092
Long-term debt and notes payable	290,108	8,889
Deferred income taxes	34,360	30,979
Minority interest	14,926	1,426
Accumulated losses in investments in affiliated companies	6,079	5,068
Other liabilities	11,413	11,358
Stockholders' equity	551,087	416,165
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Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 1,042,738	\$ 591,977
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For more information, contact:

John F. Curtis
Vice President, Strategy and Operations, Treasurer
Ionics, Incorporated
Tel: (617) 673-4403
jcurtis@ionics.com

Daniel M. Kuzmak
Vice President, Chief Financial Officer
Ionics, Incorporated
Tel: (617) 673-4350
dkuzmak@ionics.com