

KRAFT FOODS INC
Form 8-K
October 29, 2008

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 29, 2008

KRAFT FOODS INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Virginia
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

1-16483
(Commission File Number)

52-2284372
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

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Three Lakes Drive, Northfield, Illinois
(Address of Principal executive offices)

60093-2753
(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone number, including area code: (847) 646-2000

Not Applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- .. Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- .. Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

This information shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

On October 29, 2008, Kraft Foods Inc., a Virginia corporation, issued a press release announcing earnings for the third quarter ended September 30, 2008. A copy of the earnings press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this report.

The company reports its financial results in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The company is presenting various operating results, such as operating income, operating income margin, effective tax rate, net earnings and EPS on both a reported basis and on a basis excluding items that affect comparability of results. When the company uses operating results, such as operating income, operating income margin, effective tax rate, net earnings and EPS, excluding items, they are considered non-GAAP financial measures. The term items includes asset impairment, exit and implementation costs primarily related to a restructuring program that began in the first quarter of 2004 (the Restructuring Program). These restructuring charges include separation-related costs, asset write-downs, and other costs related to the implementation of the Restructuring Program. Other excluded items pertain to asset impairment charges on certain long-lived assets, gains and losses on divestitures, interest from tax reserve transfers from Altria Group, Inc., the favorable resolution of Altria Group, Inc.'s 1996-1999 IRS Tax Audit in 2006, other one-time costs related to the company's European Union segment reorganization, charges from certain legal matters, and a deferred tax reconciliation item.

Management believes that certain non-GAAP financial measures and corresponding ratios provide additional meaningful comparisons between current results and results in prior operating periods. More specifically, management believes these non-GAAP financial measures reflect fundamental business performance because they exclude certain items that affect comparability of results.

The company's top-line guidance measure is organic net revenues, which excludes the impact of acquisitions, divestitures and currency. The company uses organic net revenues and corresponding growth ratios as non-GAAP financial measures. Management believes this measure better reflects revenues on a going-forward basis and provides improved comparability of results.

Management uses segment operating income and segment operating income excluding items to evaluate segment performance and allocate resources. Beginning in the second quarter of 2008, we began excluding unrealized gains and losses on hedging activity from segment operating income in order to provide better transparency of our segment operating results. Once realized, the gains and losses on hedging activities are recorded within segment operating results. Segment operating income now excludes unrealized gains and losses on hedging activity (which is a component of cost of sales), general corporate expenses and amortization of intangibles for all periods presented. Management believes it is appropriate to disclose this measure to help investors analyze segment performance and trends. Additionally, certain commodity hedging activities include the timing impacts of realized gains and losses on commodity hedges recorded earlier in the year.

The company measures EPS growth excluding the impacts of timing from certain commodity hedging activities. EPS growth was negatively impacted by approximately \$140 million of unrealized losses from commodity hedging activities, or 14 percentage points of EPS growth, recorded in the current quarter, and approximately \$40 million of realized gains on certain commodity hedging activities, or 4 percentage points of EPS growth, recorded in prior quarters. The total negative impact, or about 18 percentage points of EPS growth, is a non-GAAP measure. Management believes that including this measure better reflects the overall impact to EPS growth from the timing impacts on our third quarter results from certain commodity hedging activities.

See the attached schedules for supplemental financial data and corresponding reconciliations to certain GAAP financial measures for the quarters ended September 30, 2008, and September 30, 2007. Because GAAP financial measures on a forward-looking basis are neither accessible nor deemed to be significantly different, and reconciling information is not available without unreasonable effort, with regard to the non-GAAP financial measures in our 2008 and 2009 Outlook, we have not provided that information. Non-GAAP financial measures should be viewed in addition to, and not as an alternative for, the company's results prepared in accordance with GAAP. In addition, the non-GAAP measures the company is using may differ from non-GAAP measures that other companies use. A reconciliation of all non-GAAP measures to the nearest comparable GAAP used in this earnings release can be found on the company's web site, www.kraft.com.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) The following exhibit is being furnished with this Current Report on Form 8-K.

Exhibit Number	Description
99.1	Kraft Foods Inc. Press Release, dated October 29, 2008

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.

Date: October 29, 2008

KRAFT FOODS INC.

/s/ Timothy R. McLevish

Name: Timothy R. McLevish

Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer