

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):  
April 20, 2007

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

9115 Pennsylvania 25-0644320 0-  
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-  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) (Commission File  
Number) (IRS Employer Identification No.)

Two NorthShore Center, Pittsburgh,  
PA 15212-5851  
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(Address of principal executive  
offices) (Zip  
Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area  
code: (412) 442-8200  
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Item 8.01 Other Events

On April 20, 2007, Matthews International Corporation issued a press release announcing that its Board of Directors approved the continuation of its stock repurchase program and increased the total authorization for stock repurchases by an additional two million five hundred thousand shares. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits

99.1 Press release, dated April 20, 2007, issued by Matthews International Corporation.

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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 hereunto duly authorized.

INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

MATTHEWS

(Registrant)

Steven F. Nicola

By

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Nicola

Steven F.

Financial Officer,

Chief

and Treasurer

Secretary

Date: April 20, 2007



April 20, 2007  
Officer,  
Treasurer

Steven F. Nicola

Chief Financial  
Secretary &  
412:442-8262

**MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION  
ANNOUNCES CONTINUATION OF ITS STOCK REPURCHASE PROGRAM**

PITTSBURGH, PA, APRIL 20, 2007-- Matthews International Corporation (NASDAQ NMS: MATW) announced today that its Board of Directors approved a continuation of the Company's stock repurchase program. Previously, on five separate occasions, the Board had approved repurchasing a total of ten million shares, or two million shares for each authorization. Approximately 500,000 shares remain to be purchased under the most recent of these authorizations (April 2004). The new authorization allows Matthews to purchase up to an additional 2,500,000 shares of the Company's common stock, extending the total authorization to 12,500,000 shares.

Joseph C. Bartolacci, President and Chief Executive Officer, stated that "The repurchase program continues to be important element in the Company's fiscal management. Given the current value of Matthews common stock, the Company's consistent financial performance, and our long-term earnings growth outlook, we believe the program is an effective use of the Company's financial resources."

The repurchase program is designed to increase shareholder value, enlarge the Company's holdings of its common stock, and add to earnings per share. Repurchased shares may be retained in treasury, utilized for acquisitions, or reissued to employees or other purchasers. Since the inception of this program, the Company has purchased approximately 22 percent of its total outstanding shares.

Matthews International Corporation, headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is a designer, manufacturer and marketer principally of memorialization products and brand solutions. Memorialization products consist primarily of bronze memorials and other memorialization products, caskets and cremation equipment for the cemetery and funeral home industries. Brand solutions include graphics imaging products and services, marking products, and merchandising solutions. The Company's products and services include cast bronze memorials and other memorialization products; caskets; cast and etched architectural products; cremation equipment and cremation-related products; mausoleums; brand management, printing plates, pre-press services, and imaging systems for the primary packaging and corrugated industries; marking equipment and consumables, and industrial automation products for identifying, tracking and conveying various consumer and industrial products, components and packaging containers; and merchandising display systems and marketing and design services.