
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):
February 21, 2008

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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

Two NorthShore Center, Pittsburgh, PA
(Address of principal executive offices)

15212-5851
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

(412) 442-8200

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers

On February 22, 2008, Matthews International Corporation (“the Company”) reported that William J. Stallkamp has been named as the Company’s new Chairman of the Board of Directors. Following the Company’s Annual Shareholder’s Meeting on February 21, 2008, the Board of Directors elected Mr. Stallkamp as the Chairman. David M. Kelly, the Company’s former Chairman, retired from the Board upon the close of the Shareholder’s Meeting.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release, dated February 22, 2008, issued by Matthews International Corporation.

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.

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
(Registrant)

By Steven F. Nicola

Steven F. Nicola
Chief Financial Officer,
Secretary and Treasurer

February 22, 2008

February 22, 2008

Steven F. Nicola

CFO, Secretary & Treasurer
412:442-8262

**MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
ELECTS NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

PITTSBURGH, PA, February 22, 2008 -- Matthews International Corporation (NASDAQ NMS: MATW) (the "Company") today reported that William J. Stallkamp has been named as the Company's new Chairman of the Board of Directors. Following the Company's Annual Shareholders' Meeting on February 21, 2008, the Board of Directors elected Mr. Stallkamp as Chairman. David M. Kelly, the Company's former Chairman, retired from the Board upon the close of the Shareholders' Meeting. Mr. Stallkamp represents the Matthews' first independent board member to serve as Chairman.

Joseph C. Bartolacci, President and Chief Executive Officer, stated: "We are delighted that Mr. Stallkamp has accepted the role as Chairman of the Board. His experience and tenure with the Company are invaluable and I look forward to his continued counsel and support."

In discussing his election, Mr. Stallkamp stated: "It is a privilege for me to serve as Chairman of the Board of Matthews, which has a long tradition of integrity and success, and I appreciate the confidence of the Board in electing me to this responsibility. I look forward to working with management to maintain the high standards set by the Company towards its long-term objective of increasing shareholder value."

Mr. Stallkamp has been a director of the Company since 1981 and has served as the Board's Lead Independent Director since fiscal 2005. He was a Vice Chairman of Mellon Financial Corporation, a financial services company, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Mellon PSFS in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania until his retirement on January 1, 2000. He currently serves as a director of Cowee Forest Products, Inc., United Concordia Companies, Inc., Highmark, The Philadelphia Stock Exchange and The Smithers-Oasis Company. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Franklin Institute.

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; printing plates, pre-press services and imaging services for the primary packaging and corrugated industries; marking and coding 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.
