
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):
July 24, 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 July 24, 2008, Matthews International Corporation (“Matthews” or “the Company”) announced the election of Katherine E. Dietze to the Matthews Board of Directors. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1. Ms. Dietze will be nominated for election as a director by the Company’s shareholders at the 2009 Annual Meeting. Ms. Dietze was appointed to the Compensation Committee and to the Company’s Pension Board.

Ms. Dietze will be compensated as a director of the Company in accordance with the provisions of the 1994 Director Fee Plan, as amended, which are discussed in the Company’s 2008 Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement and Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2007.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release, dated July 24, 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

July 29, 2008

July 24, 2008

& Treasurer

Steven F. Nicola
Chief Financial Officer, Secretary

412:442-8262

**MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL
ANNOUNCES NEW DIRECTOR**

PITTSBURGH, PA, July 24, 2008 -- Matthews International Corporation (NASDAQ: MATW) announced that Katherine E. Dietze was elected today to the Company's Board of Directors.

Ms. Dietze was Global Chief Operating Officer, Investment Banking Division of Credit Suisse First Boston until her retirement in 2005. She had also held the position of Managing Director, Investment Banking. Prior to joining Credit Suisse First Boston in 1996, Ms. Dietze was a Managing Director for Salomon Brothers Inc. In 2007, she was elected to the Board of Directors of LaBranche & Co., Inc., a financial services firm. Ms. Dietze received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Brown University and graduated from Columbia University with an M.B.A. in Finance and Marketing.

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 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.
