

=====

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

April 24, 2003
Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC.
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Wisconsin	0-16255	39-1536083
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	(Commission file number)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

555 Main Street, Racine, Wisconsin 53403
(Address of principal executive offices)

(262) 631-6600
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

=====

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

- (a) Not applicable.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Exhibits. The following exhibit is being furnished with this Current Report on Form 8-K (this "Report"):

Press Release dated April 24, 2003

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure. (Information provided under Item 12 - Results of Operations and Financial Condition).

On April 24, 2003, Johnson Outdoors Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release announcing the Company's quarterly financial results for the reporting period ended March 28, 2003 (the "Press Release"). A copy of the Press Release is being furnished as Exhibit 99 to this Report.

Included in the Press Release are certain non-GAAP financial measures related to the Company's results excluding the Jack Wolfskin business, which was sold in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002. The Company believes the non-GAAP financial information is useful to the readers of the Press Release because it provides comparable year over year financial information to evaluate performance of the Company's continuing business. The presentation of the non-GAAP financial information should not be considered in isolation or in lieu of the results prepared in accordance with GAAP, but should be considered in conjunction with the results prepared in accordance with GAAP.

Item 12 of Form 8-K, "Results of Operations and Financial Condition", requires the Company to furnish the Press Release to the Securities and Exchange Commission. In accordance with interim guidance issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission in Release No. 33-8216, the Company is furnishing the Press Release required by Item 12 under Item 9 of this Report.

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 thereunto duly authorized.

Date: April 24, 2003

JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC.

/s/ Paul A. Lehmann

Paul A. Lehmann
Vice President and Chief Financial
Officer, Secretary (Principal Financial
and Accounting Officer)

JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC.

EXHIBIT INDEX TO CURRENT REPORT ON FORM 8-K
DATED APRIL 24, 2003

Exhibit	Description
99	Press Release dated April 24, 2003

AT JOHNSON OUTDOORS:
Paul A. Lehmann
VP and Chief Financial Officer
(262) 631-6600

AT FRB|WEBER SHANDWICK:
Larry Stein
General Inquiries
(312) 266-7800

Mark Muehlfelt
Analyst Contact
(312) 266-7800

Tim Grace
Media Contact
(312) 266-7800

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2003

JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. REPORTS
HIGHER SALES AND EARNINGS
ON CONTINUING BUSINESSES IN SECOND QUARTER

Racine, Wisconsin, April 24, 2003 - Johnson Outdoors Inc. (Nasdaq: JOUT) today announced improved results for its continuing businesses in the second fiscal quarter ended March 28, 2003. Comparisons of continuing businesses exclude the Company's Jack Wolfskin subsidiary, which was sold in last year's fourth quarter.

As reported, including the results of Jack Wolfskin, Johnson Outdoors sales decreased 15% to \$83.3 million and operating profit declined 26% to \$6.1 million compared with last year's second quarter. Income from continuing operations increased 10% to \$4.3 million compared with \$3.9 million in the year-ago quarter. This year's second quarter income from continuing operations included other income of \$2.1 million primarily due to a currency gain on the settlement of a loan related to the sale of Jack Wolfskin. Earnings from continuing operations increased 9% to \$0.50 per diluted share in this year's second quarter compared with \$0.46 per diluted share a year ago. Last year's second quarter net earnings were \$0.52 per diluted share, which included income of \$0.06 per diluted share from a discontinued operation.

On a continuing business basis (see chart below), three of Johnson Outdoors' four business segments - Motors, Outdoor Equipment and Diving -- produced higher sales and strong double-digit growth in operating profit during the second fiscal quarter compared with last year. Overall, sales increased 2% to \$83.3 million from \$81.7 million a year ago. Driven by a 190 basis-point increase in gross profit to 43.5%, operating profit increased 8% to \$6.1 million from \$5.7 million, as operating margin rose 50 basis points to 7.4%. The favorable impact of currency translations added approximately \$2.7 million to sales and \$0.6 million to operating profit in this year's second quarter. Benefiting from the \$2.1 million in other income noted above, second quarter income from continuing operations increased to \$4.3 million from \$2.2 million in the year-ago quarter. Excluding the contribution of the Jack Wolfskin business in the

MORE...

Johnson Outdoors Inc.
Add 2

prior year, earnings from continuing operations of the continuing businesses rose to \$0.50 per diluted share from \$0.26 per diluted share in last year's second quarter.

Second Quarter Comparisons - As Reported and on Continuing Business Basis
(Amounts in millions, except per share data)

	For the Quarter Ended March 28, 2003			For the Quarter Ended March 29, 2002		
	As Reported	Jack Wolfskin	Continuing Business(1)	As Reported	Jack Wolfskin	Continuing Business(1)
Net sales	\$ 83.3	\$ -	\$ 83.3	\$97.7	\$ 16.0	\$ 81.7
Gross profit	36.2	-	36.2	40.7	6.7	34.0
Operating profit	6.1	-	6.1	8.3	2.6	5.7
Income (2)	4.3	-	4.3	3.9	1.7	2.2
Earnings per share (2)	0.50	-	0.50	0.46	0.20	0.26

(1) Continuing Business for the second quarter of both years excludes results from the Jack Wolfskin operation, which was sold in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002, but was not treated as a discontinued operation according to GAAP.

(2) Income and earnings per share are from continuing operations.

"Considering the challenging economic and market conditions, we were pleased with the sales and profit growth of our continuing businesses in the second quarter," said Helen Johnson-Leipold, Chairman and CEO of Johnson Outdoors. "The improvement was broad-based, with strong profit growth in Motors, Outdoor Equipment and Diving, which together comprise more than 75% of our total sales.

Clearly, our operations are becoming more efficient and our new products are driving gains in market share. While Watercraft posted lower comparisons against last year's results, we believe the encouraging progress of Ocean/Necky is further evidence that we are taking the right steps to improve Watercraft. We are now bringing those successful strategies to the few businesses remaining in the segment that are still underperforming."

"During the third fiscal quarter, our key selling season, while business conditions may dampen growth, we are encouraged that our emphasis on innovation continues to drive gains in market share. In fact, new products produced over the past three years accounted for approximately 30% of the Company's total sales in the second quarter. At the same time, we're responding effectively to changes in the marketplace, creating customized products that appeal to larger retailers. Sales to our largest customers are growing faster than the Company's average and are becoming a larger part of our overall business. All told, while market conditions are very difficult to predict, we are well-positioned as we enter our key selling season."

Outdoor Equipment

Including the results of Jack Wolfskin, sales declined 43% to \$18.8 million in the second quarter and operating profit was down 38% or \$1.8 million to \$3.0 million from the prior year quarter. However, for our continuing business in this segment (see charts below), continued growth in military tents drove a 12% increase in the segment's second quarter sales to \$18.8 million from \$16.8 million in the year ago quarter. With a 150-basis point rise in gross margin, operating profit climbed 33% to \$3.0 million from \$2.3 million in the prior year quarter for our continuing business in this segment. Military sales in the current fiscal year contributed to these results; however, the

MORE...

Johnson Outdoors Inc.
Add 3

Company does not necessarily expect the same level of growth in this channel in future years.

Outdoor Equipment Segment
Second Quarter Comparisons - As Reported and on Continuing Business Basis
(Amounts in millions)

	For the Quarter Ended March 28, 2003			For the Quarter Ended March 29, 2002		
	As Reported	Jack Wolfskin	Continuing Business(1)	As Reported	Jack Wolfskin	Continuing Business(1)
Net sales	\$ 18.8	\$ -	\$ 18.8	\$ 32.8	\$ 16.0	\$ 16.8
Operating profit	3.0	-	3.0	4.9	2.6	2.3

(1) Continuing Business for the second quarter of both years excludes results from the Jack Wolfskin operation, which was sold in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002, but was not treated as a discontinued operation according to GAAP.

Outdoor Equipment Segment
Six Month Comparisons - As Reported and on Continuing Business Basis
(Amounts in millions)

	For the Six Months Ended March 28, 2003			For the Six Months Ended March 29, 2002		
	As Reported	Jack Wolfskin	Continuing Business(1)	As Reported	Jack Wolfskin	Continuing Business(1)
Net sales	\$ 30.7	\$ 0.4	\$ 30.3	\$ 55.6	\$ 28.3	\$ 27.3
Operating profit (loss)	4.4	(0.1)	4.5	7.5	3.9	3.6

(1) Continuing Business for the six months of both years excludes results from the Jack Wolfskin operation, which was sold in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002, but was not treated as a discontinued operation according to GAAP.

Watercraft
Although Watercraft's brands continue to experience strong customer acceptance and gains in volume, operational inefficiencies in certain businesses continue to hamper results. Second quarter sales decreased 10% to \$19.9 million and the segment had an operating loss of \$1.1 million compared with a \$0.8 million operating profit in last year's second quarter.

Johnson-Leipold commented, "We continue to invest in new systems and new people, and there are some signs of improvement, most notably Ocean/Necky. While these major changes disrupted operations to an extent during the second quarter, we believe they will have a positive impact on productivity over the long term. We have a good track record of improving businesses and, while we're beginning to see some positive indications at Watercraft, we know this is a long process and more time will be needed to get all of the businesses back on track."

MORE...

Motors

The Motors segment continued to post solid results, even against comparisons to last year's strong second quarter. This year's second quarter sales increased 6% to \$27.3 million, as new products continued to drive gains in market share. Gross margin rose by 300-basis points, helping to boost operating profit by 35% to \$4.3 million.

Diving

Despite difficult market conditions in the Diving segment, further improvements in production efficiency drove a 750-basis point increase in gross margin and higher profits. Sales rose 1% to \$17.7 million, while operating profit increased 26% to \$3.2 million. Forecasting for this business remains difficult in light of the impact of the war in Iraq, the SARS epidemic, and uncertainty relating to the timing of the economic recovery.

Six-Month Results

As reported, for the six months ended March 28, 2003, net sales totaled \$138.2 million compared with \$157.5 million in the year-ago period. Operating profit decreased to \$6.3 million from \$9.2 million in last year's first six months. The decrease in sales and operating profit was entirely due to the sale of Jack Wolfskin in the fourth quarter of last year. Income from continuing operations increased to \$4.0 million from \$3.5 million, due to lower interest expense and \$2.5 million in other income, mainly related to the currency gain discussed previously. Earnings from continuing operations increased to \$0.47 per diluted share compared with \$0.42 in the year-ago period. Last year, Johnson Outdoors reported a net loss of \$2.28 per diluted share for the six-month period, which included a non-cash after-tax charge of \$2.76 per diluted share for goodwill impairment from a change in accounting due to the adoption of SFAS No. 142.

On a continuing business basis (see chart below), six-month sales rose 7% to \$137.8 million, operating profit increased 20% to \$6.4 million and income from continuing operations rose to \$4.1 million from \$1.1 million in the year-ago period. Earnings from continuing operations increased to \$0.48 per diluted share from \$0.13 per diluted share in last year's six-month period.

Six Month Comparisons - As Reported and on Continuing Business Basis (Amounts in millions, except per share data)

	For the Six Months Ended March 28, 2003			For the Six Months Ended March 29, 2002		
	As Reported	Jack Wolfskin	Continuing Business(1)	As Reported	Jack Wolfskin	Continuing Business(1)
Net sales	\$ 138.2	\$ 0.4	\$ 137.8	\$ 157.5	\$ 28.3	\$ 129.2
Gross profit	59.9	-	59.9	66.0	11.4	54.6
Operating profit (loss)	6.3	(0.1)	6.4	9.2	3.9	5.3
Income (loss)(2)	4.0	(0.1)	4.1	3.5	2.4	1.1
Earnings (loss) per share(2)	0.47	(0.01)	0.48	0.42	0.29	0.13

(1) Continuing Business for the six months of both years excludes results from the Jack Wolfskin operation, which was sold in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002, but was not treated as a discontinued operation according to GAAP.

(2) Income and earnings per share are from continuing operations before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle.

MORE...

Johnson Outdoors Inc.
Add 5

Financial Condition

Johnson Outdoors continued to operate with a much stronger financial position compared with one year ago. At March 28, 2003, cash and short-term investments totaled \$44.8 million. The Company's debt to total capital was 36%, substantially below last year's second quarter end 60% and 42% at the close of fiscal 2002.

Among key working capital items, receivables decreased \$5.4 million and inventories decreased \$5.7 million versus the prior year quarter end. The prior year included Jack Wolfskin receivables of \$10.6 million and inventory of \$13.2 million. The Company's working capital normally builds during the second quarter in preparation for the key selling season in the third quarter.

Depreciation and amortization totaled \$2.0 million for the second quarter, and \$3.9 million for this year's six month period compared with \$2.1 and \$4.5 million in last year's second quarter and first six months, respectively. Capital expenditures were \$3.5 million year to date compared with \$2.5 million in the prior year's first six months. The increases are primarily due to investments to upgrade information systems in the Watercraft business.

"A strong cash position and continued balance sheet focus are providing solid support for our Company's growth in this difficult market environment," said Paul Lehmann, Chief Financial Officer. "In addition, we are in a good position to continue to consider potential acquisitions."

Webcast

- - - - -

Johnson Outdoors will hold a conference call on April 24, 2003 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time. The call will be webcast at www.johnsonoutdoors.com and www.companyboardroom.com. A replay will be available on both web sites for 30 days, and by telephone through May 1st by dialing 800-405-2236 or 303-590-3000 and providing confirmation code 534831.

MORE...

Johnson Outdoors Inc.
Add 6

Johnson Outdoors Inc. is a global company engaged in the design, manufacture and marketing of branded outdoor recreation products, including:

Outdoor Equipment: Eureka!(R)tents and backpacks, Camp Trails(R) backpacks, Silva(R)compasses

Watercraft: Old Town(R)canoes and kayaks, Ocean Kayak(TM), Necky and Dimension(R)kayaks, Leisure Life watercraft, Escape(R)sailboats, Carlisle(TM)paddles and oars, Extrasport(R)and Swiftwater(R)personal flotation devices

Motors: Minn Kota(R) electric motors

Diving: Scubapro(R)diving equipment and Uwatec(R)instruments

Visit Johnson Outdoors online at www.JohnsonOutdoors.com.

Certain matters discussed in this press release are "forward-looking statements," intended to qualify for the safe harbors from liability established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements can generally be identified as such because the context of the statement includes phrases such as the Company "expects," "believes" or other words of similar meaning. Similarly, statements that describe the Company's future outlook, plans, objectives or goals are also forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those currently anticipated. Factors that could affect actual results or outcomes include changes in consumer spending patterns, actions of companies that compete with Johnson Outdoors, the Company's success in managing inventory, movements in foreign currencies or interest rates, the success of suppliers and customers, the ability of Johnson Outdoors' to deploy its capital successfully as well as adverse weather conditions. Shareholders, potential investors and other readers are urged to consider these factors in evaluating the forward-looking statements and are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements included herein are only made as of the date of this press release and the Company undertakes no obligations to publicly update such forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances.

Financial Tables Follow

MORE...

JOHNSON OUTDOORS INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

(thousands, except per share amounts)

Operating Results	THREE MONTHS ENDED		SIX MONTHS ENDED	
	March 28 2003	March 29 2002	March 28 2003	March 29 2002
Net sales	\$ 83,265	\$ 97,718	\$ 138,160	\$ 157,456
Cost of sales	47,072	56,977	78,284	91,425
Gross profit	36,193	40,741	59,876	66,031
Operating expenses	30,069	31,793	53,586	55,631
Strategic charges	--	690	--	1,151
Operating profit	6,124	8,258	6,290	9,249
Interest expense, net	1,114	1,679	2,132	3,085
Other (income) expense, net	(2,115)	92	(2,471)	337
Income from continuing operations before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle and income taxes	7,125	6,487	6,629	5,827
Income tax expense	2,828	2,598	2,612	2,334
Income from continuing operations before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle	4,297	3,889	4,017	3,493
Income on disposal of discontinued operations, net of tax	--	495	--	495
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of tax	--	--	--	(22,876)
Net income (loss)	\$ 4,297	\$ 4,384	\$ 4,017	\$ (18,888)
Basic earnings (loss) per common share:				
Income from continuing operations before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.43
Income on disposal of discontinued operations, net of tax	--	0.06	--	0.06
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of tax	--	--	--	(2.80)
Net income (loss)	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.48	\$ (2.31)
Diluted earnings (loss) per common share:				
Income from continuing operations before cumulative effect of change in accounting principle	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.42
Income on disposal of discontinued operations, net of tax	--	0.06	--	0.06
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle, net of tax	--	--	--	(2.76)
Net income (loss)	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.47	\$ (2.28)
Diluted average common shares outstanding	8,561	8,381	8,525	8,289
Segment Results				
Net sales:				
Outdoor equipment	\$ 18,820	\$ 32,828	\$ 30,710	\$ 55,553
Watercraft	19,949	22,099	31,858	32,835
Motors	27,331	25,749	42,337	38,302
Diving	17,686	17,469	34,161	31,292
Other/eliminations	(521)	(427)	(906)	(526)
Total	\$ 83,265	\$ 97,718	\$ 138,160	\$ 157,456
Operating profit (loss):				
Outdoor equipment	\$ 3,039	\$ 4,867	\$ 4,440	\$ 7,453
Watercraft	(1,111)	842	(3,040)	(506)
Motors	4,296	3,190	5,873	3,740
Diving	3,157	2,508	5,183	3,992
Other/eliminations	(3,257)	(3,149)	(6,166)	(5,430)
Total	\$ 6,124	\$ 8,258	\$ 6,290	\$ 9,249
Balance Sheet Information (End of Period)				
Cash and short-term investments			\$ 44,821	\$ 13,794
Accounts receivable, net			71,520	76,944
Inventories, net			62,655	68,378
Total current assets			190,226	169,856
Total assets			271,293	250,718
Short-term debt			9,538	44,765
Total current liabilities			61,010	84,826
Long-term debt			68,488	78,256
Shareholders' equity			136,196	83,078