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 19, 2013



Daktronics, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

South Dakota

(State or other jurisdiction Incorporation or organization)

0-23246

(Commission File Number)

46-0306862

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

201 Daktronics Drive Brookings, SD 57006

(Address of principal executive office) (zip code)

(605) 692-0200

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable

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

Section 2 - Financial Information

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On February 19, 2013 Daktronics, Inc. (the "Registrant") issued a press release announcing its financial results for the three and nine months ended January 26, 2013 of fiscal 2013. A copy of the press release is filed herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

The information furnished in this report, including the exhibit shall not be incorporated by reference into Daktronics' filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Act of 1933 and shall not be deemed "filed" with the SEC for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Act of 1934.

Section 9 – Financial Statements and Exhibits

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits:

(d) Exhibits. The following exhibit is furnished as part of this Report:

99.1 Press Release dated February 19, 2013 issued by Registrant regarding third quarter fiscal 2013 results.

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.

DAKTRONICS, INC.

By: /s/ Sheila M. Anderson

Sheila M. Anderson, Chief Financial Officer

Date: February 19, 2013

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Press Release dated February 19, 2013 issued by Registrant regarding third quarter fiscal 2013 results.



Daktronics, Inc. Announces Third Quarter Fiscal 2013 Results

Brookings, S.D. – February 19, 2013 - Daktronics, Inc. (NASDAQ - DAKT) today reported fiscal 2013 third quarter net sales of \$111.1 million and net income of \$2.7 million, or \$0.06 per diluted share, compared to net sales of \$122.9 million and net income of \$1.7 million, or \$0.04 per diluted share, for the third quarter of fiscal 2012. Fiscal 2013 third quarter orders were \$134.3 million compared to \$107.0 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2012. Backlog at the end of the fiscal 2013 third quarter was \$149 million, compared with a backlog of \$121 million a year earlier and \$128 million at the end of the second quarter of fiscal 2013.

Net sales, net income and earnings per share for the nine months ended January 26, 2013 were \$393.8 million, \$20.9 million and \$0.49 per diluted share, respectively. This compares to \$377.5 million, \$9.0 million and \$0.21 per diluted share, respectively, for the same period in fiscal 2012.

Free cash flow, defined as cash provided by operations less net purchases of property and equipment, was \$26.6 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2013, compared to \$(4.1) million for the same period in fiscal 2012. Cash and marketable securities at the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2013 were \$50.1 million, which compares to \$50.6 million at the end of the fiscal 2012 third quarter.

"We were pleased with our order volume in the third quarter which set us up with a solid backlog going into the fourth quarter. On the sales front, we had anticipated our sales level would be comparable to fiscal 2012 third quarter, but we came in under that primarily due to on-site schedule changes which delayed a couple of large projects. The revenue associated with these delays will be realized in the fourth quarter," said Jim Morgan, president and chief executive officer.

Gross profit levels were lower primarily due to the lower revenues for the third quarter compared to the level of fixed costs in our infrastructure. Operating expenses for the quarter were relatively flat compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2012. We realized a one-time tax benefit this quarter for the reinstatement of the research and development tax credit, which provided an approximate \$1.9 million tax benefit for the quarter.

Orders

- Orders in the Commercial business unit were up approximately 20 percent in the third quarter of fiscal 2013 compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2012, including two video system orders for a combined total of approximately \$7.5 million and a slight increase in the volume of standard orders booked. Billboard orders remained flat compared to the previous year.
- Orders in the third quarter of fiscal 2013 for the Live Events business unit rose approximately 23 percent compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2012 as a result of winning multiple large sport venue projects during the quarter. Significant orders booked in the quarter included video display systems at two NFL stadiums and one at the University of Illinois with a combined total of over \$19 million.
- Orders in the Schools and Theatres business unit improved by approximately two percent for the third quarter of fiscal 2013, compared to the same period in fiscal 2012. The continued improvement during fiscal 2013 was in part due to schools demonstrating more willingness this year than in fiscal 2012 to move forward with projects along with increased interest in larger video display systems for high schools.
- Orders in the Transportation business were up approximately 29 percent compared to the same period in fiscal 2012, primarily as a result of booking the first \$6 million commitment related to the previously announced \$20 million procurement contract with the New Jersey Turnpike Authority and booking a \$3 million project with one of our ongoing state department of transportation customers.
- Orders in the International business unit were up approximately 62 percent over the third quarter of fiscal 2012. Orders for the quarter included two projects totaling \$5.1 million for sports venues and a \$2.2 million order from one of our commercial national accounts customers, all originating in the Asia Pacific region.

Outlook

Morgan added, "Our backlog includes some work that is not deliverable in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2013 due to customers' schedules; however, we expect sales to increase in our fiscal 2013 fourth quarter over both the third quarter of fiscal 2013 and the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012. Gross profit margin is expected to be lower than our fiscal 2013 year-to-date levels due to the mix of business, as we anticipate working on a number of larger contracts with lower sales margins this quarter. Operating expenses are expected to be slightly less than in our fiscal third quarter. We are estimating that our capital investment for all of fiscal 2013 will be less than \$11.0 million, down from \$16.5 million in fiscal 2012."

"We continue to see a strong pipeline of potential business. We see opportunities in our International business unit in third party advertising. We recently announced the prospective acquisition of OPEN Out-of Home Solutions ("OPEN"), a Belgian company that specializes in serving the third party advertising market in Europe. We expect to complete the integration of OPEN into Daktronics by the first quarter of fiscal 2014, and we look forward to the opportunities this acquisition offers. We see opportunity for continued growth in video projects for high schools in Schools and Theatres, and large video systems in Live Events. Transportation has a strong pipeline and we will start shipping our new full color standard displays specially designed for that market in the fourth quarter. We see the shift to full color in the transportation business as a positive growth driver for that business. We expect a limited amount of growth in our commercial business, but opportunities exist for large video projects and replacement programs of some of our national on-premise accounts. We remain committed to our three-year strategic goal to significantly improve operating margin by attaining top line growth and containing costs. We have more work to do over the next couple of years to achieve and sustain that goal, and we will continue to work on improvements during the fourth quarter. We continue to work to improve the gross profit on contracts as well as on standard products through initiatives in product design, manufacturing, and project management," continued Morgan.

Webcast Information

The company will host a conference call and webcast to discuss its financial results today at 10:00 am (Central Time). This call will be broadcast live at http://investor.daktronics.com and available for replay shortly after the event.

About Daktronics

Daktronics has strong leadership positions in, and is the world's largest supplier of, large screen video displays, electronic scoreboards, LED text and graphics displays, and related control systems. The company excels in the control of display systems, including those that require integration of multiple complex displays showing real-time information, graphics, animation, and video. Daktronics designs, manufactures, markets and services display systems for customers around the world in four domestic business units: Live Events, Commercial, Schools and Theatres and Transportation, and one International business unit. For more information, visit the company's World Wide Web site at: http://www.daktronics.com, e-mail the company at investor@daktronics.com, call (605) 692-0200 or toll-free (800) 843-5843 in the United States or write to the company at 201 Daktronics Dr., PO Box 5128, Brookings, S.D. 57006-5128.

Safe Harbor Statement

Cautionary Notice: In addition to statements of historical fact, this news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and is intended to enjoy the protection of that Act. These forward-looking statements reflect the Company's expectations or beliefs concerning future events. The Company cautions that these and similar statements involve risk and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations, including, but not limited to, changes in economic and market conditions, management of growth, timing and magnitude of future contracts, fluctuations in margins, the introduction of new products and technology, the impact of adverse weather conditions and other risks noted in the company's SEC filings, including its Annual Report on Form 10-K for its 2012 fiscal year. Forward-looking statements are made in the context of information available as of the date stated. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise such statements to reflect new circumstances or unanticipated events as they occur.

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For more information contact:

INVESTOR RELATIONS: Sheila Anderson, Chief Financial Officer (605) 692-0200 Investor@daktronics.com

Daktronics, Inc. and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Operations (in thousands, except per share amounts) (unaudited)

	Three Months Ended			Nine Months Ended				
	Ja	nuary 26, 2013	Ja 	nuary 28, 2012	January 26, 2013		January 28, 2012	
Net sales	\$	111,050	\$	122,925	\$	393,840	\$	377,532
Cost of goods sold		84,001		95,070		288,049		288,702
Gross profit		27,049		27,855		105,791		88,830
Operating expenses:								
Selling expense		13,652		13,341		39,528		38,475
General and administrative		6,717		6,974		20,148		20,410
Product design and development		5,611		5,696		17,477		17,050
		25,980		26,011		77,153		75,935
Operating income		1,069		1,844		28,638		12,895
Nonoperating income (expense):								
Interest income		386		434		1,165		1,326
Interest expense		(28)		(61)		(151)		(231)
Other expense, net		(193)		(29)		(224)		(221)
Income before income taxes		1,234		2,188		29,428		13,769
Income tax (benefit) expense		(1,476)		522		8,493		4,775
Net income	\$	2,710	\$	1,666	\$	20,935	\$	8,994
Weighted average shares outstanding:								
Basic		42,343		41,916		42,206		41,811
Diluted		42,539		42,076		42,447		42,175
Equipme pay shows								
Earnings per share: Basic	\$	0.06	\$	0.04	\$	0.50	\$	0.22
Diluted	\$ \$	0.06	\$	0.04	\$	0.30	\$	0.22
Diluted	Ψ	0.00	Ψ	0.04	Ψ	0.49	Ψ	0.21
Cash dividends declared per share	\$	0.615	\$	0.510	\$	0.730	\$	0.620

Daktronics, Inc. and Subsidiaries Consolidated Balance Sheets

(in thousands)

	January 26, 2013 (unaudited)		pril 28, 2012
ASSETS	(* ************************************		
CURRENT ASSETS:			
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	\$ 24,553	\$	30,592
Marketable securities	25,539		25,258
Accounts receivable, net	59,592		66,923
Inventories	49,578		54,924
Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings	41,120		23,020
Current maturities of long-term receivables	5,123		5,830
Prepaid expenses and other assets	6,606		5,528
Deferred income taxes	11,191		10,941
Income tax receivables	2,847		5,990
Total current assets	226,149		229,006
Long-term receivables, less current maturities	12,181		12,622
Goodwill	3,328		3,347
Intangibles	1,238		1,409
Advertising rights, net and other assets	988		1,157
Deferred income taxes	35		30
	17,770		18,565
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT:			
Land	1,497		1,497
Buildings	57,018		56,431
Machinery and equipment	63,789		61,654
Office furniture and equipment	16,199		15,648
Computer software and hardware	41,506		42,172
Equipment held for rental	868		1,003
Demonstration equipment	8,315		9,806
Transportation equipment	4,100		4,116
	193,292		192,327
Less accumulated depreciation	130,626		123,931
	62,666		68,396
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 306,585	\$	315,967

Daktronics, Inc. and Subsidiaries Consolidated Balance Sheets (continued)

(in thousands)

		January 26, 2013 (unaudited)		April 28, 2012
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	(ui	iauuiteu)		
CURRENT LIABILITIES:				
Notes payable, bank	\$	_	\$	1,459
Accounts payable	•	31,798	,	33,906
Accrued expenses		23,834		22,731
Warranty obligations		12,076		13,049
Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings		14,796		14,385
Customer deposits (billed or collected)		11,323		12,826
Deferred revenue (billed or collected)		8,553		9,751
Current portion of other long-term obligations		394		359
Income tax payable		625		665
Deferred income taxes		39		42
Total current liabilities		103,438		109,173
Long-term warranty obligations		9,996		9,166
Long-term deferred revenue (billed or collected)		5,221		4,361
Other long-term obligations, less current maturities		803		1,009
Deferred income taxes		1,453		1,453
Total long-term liabilities		17,473		15,989
TOTAL LIABILITIES		120,911		125,162
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY:				
Common stock		37,259		34,631
Additional paid-in capital		26,549		24,320
Retained earnings		121,906		131,830
Treasury stock, at cost, 19,680 shares		(9)		(9)
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income		(31)		33
TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		185,674		190,805
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$	306,585	\$	315,967

Daktronics, Inc. and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(in thousands) (unaudited)

Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: Depreciation		Nine Mo	onths En	ıded
Net income \$ 20,935 \$ 8,994 Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: 31,161 13,209 Depreciation 11,614 13,209 Amortization 171 188 Amortization of premium/discount on marketable securities 140 140 Loss on sale of property and equipment 33 11 Share-based compensation (61) (30 Provision for doubtful accounts (197) (125 Deferred income taxes, net (258) (373) Change in operating assets and liabilities (1,466) (16,092) Net cash provided by operating activities 33,255 8,333 CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: Stream of the property and equipment (6,799) (12,633) Proceeds from sale of property and equipment (6,799) (12,633) 10,968 Proceeds from sales of marketable securities (13,301) (10,968) Proceeds from sale of property and equipment (6,799) (12,633) Proceeds from sale and maturities of marketable securities (3,325) (9,508)			Ja	
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: Depreciation	CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Depreciation	Net income	\$ 20,935	\$	8,994
Amortization 171 189 Amortization of premium/discount on marketable securities 140 140 Loss on sale of property and equipment 33 11 Share-based compensation 2,344 2,474 Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation (61) (30 Provision for doubtful accounts (197) (125 Deferred income taxes, net (258) (377 Change in operating assets and liabilities (1,466) (16,092) Net cash provided by operating activities 33,255 8,393 CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: State of property and equipment (6,799) (12,633) Purchases of property and equipment 175 168 169 <td>Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
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Share-based compensation 2,344 2,474 Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation (61) (30) Provision for doubtful accounts (197) (125) Deferred income taxes, net (258) (377) Change in operating assets and liabilities (1,466) (16,092) Net cash provided by operating activities 33,255 8,393 CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: Secondary (6,799) (12,633) Proceeds from sale of property and equipment 175 168 Purchases of marketable securities (13,301) (10,698) Proceeds from sales and maturities of marketable securities 12,820 13,925 Net cash used in investing activities (7,105) (9,508) CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES: Secondary 11,466 431 Payments on notes payable (1,460) — 782 Payments on notes payable (1,460) — 11,466 431 Proceeds from exercise of stock options 1,146 431 43 46 Potients as a base din financing activities <	Amortization of premium/discount on marketable securities	140		140
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Net cash used in financing activities (31,112) (24,707) EFFECT OF EXCHANGE RATE CHANGES ON CASH NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (4,919) (25,756) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS: Beginning of period 29,423 54,308		(30,859)		(25,950)
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CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS: Beginning of period 29,423 54,308	EFFECT OF EXCHANGE RATE CHANGES ON CASH			66
Beginning of period 29,423 54,308	NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(4,919)		(25,756)
Beginning of period 29,423 54,308	CASH AND CASH FOLIIVALENTS:			
	_	20 423		54 308
	End of period	\$ 24,504	\$	28,552

Daktronics, Inc. and Subsidiaries Net Sales and Orders by Business Unit

(in thousands) (unaudited)

		Three Months Ended			Nine Months Ended			
	Ja	nuary 26, 2013	Ja	nuary 28, 2012	Ja	nuary 26, 2013	Ja	nuary 28, 2012
Net Sales:								
Commercial	\$	30,997	\$	38,833	\$	109,127	\$	115,239
Live Events		26,528		38,496		121,641		123,676
Schools & Theatres		11,778		10,696		51,639		46,418
Transportation		23,546		10,261		57,713		34,201
International		18,201		24,639		53,720		57,998
	\$	111,050	\$	122,925	\$	393,840	\$	377,532
Orders:								
Commercial	\$	36,988	\$	30,720	\$	113,622	\$	111,319
Live Events		47,391		38,684		132,285		122,507
Schools & Theatres		10,183		9,941		48,106		41,589
Transportation		19,972		15,443		59,504		43,459
International		19,776		12,218		64,667		46,117
	\$	134,310	\$	107,006	\$	418,184	\$	364,991

Reconciliation of Cash Flow Provided by Operating Activities to Free Cash Flow

(in thousands) (unaudited)

		Nine Months Ended			
	January 26, 2013		January 28, 2012		
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	33,255	\$	8,393	
Purchase of property and equipment		(6,799)		(12,633)	
Proceeds from sales of property and equipment		175		168	
Free cash flow	\$	26,631	\$	(4,072)	

In evaluating its business, Daktronics considers and uses free cash flow as a key measure of its operating performance. The term free cash flow is not defined under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") and is not a measure of operating income, cash flows from operating activities or other GAAP figures and should not be considered alternatives to those computations. Free cash flow is intended to provide information that may be useful for investors when assessing period to period results.