

SMITH A O CORP
Form 10-Q/A
December 12, 2003

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-Q/A
Amendment No. 1

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2003.

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number 1-475

Delaware
(State of Incorporation)

39-0619790
(IRS Employer ID Number)

P. O. Box 245008, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53224-9508
Telephone: (414) 359-4000

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act) Yes No

Class A Common Stock Outstanding as of November 30, 2003 -- 8,501,593 shares

Common Stock Outstanding as of November 30, 2003 -- 20,744,420 shares

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

A. O. Smith Corporation (the Company) is filing this Amendment No. 1 to Form 10-Q to make certain changes to Item 1 and Item 2 originally included in our Form 10-Q as of and for the quarter ended September 30, 2003, which was originally filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 30, 2003 (the Original Filing).

As stated in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002, we have a \$250 million multi-year revolving credit agreement which expires on August 2, 2004. It is our intention to put in place a new multi-year facility in the second quarter of 2004. Borrowings under the bank credit lines and in the commercial paper market are supported by the revolving credit agreement. When these borrowings are supported by a credit agreement that has a maturity greater than one year, such borrowings are classified as long term. Since at

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September 30, 2003, the remaining term on the facility is less than one year, \$83.2 million has been reclassified in the amended balance sheet presented in Item 1 from long-term debt to short-term debt. Additionally, the wording with respect to the working capital discussion presented in the Liquidity and Capital Resources section of Management's Discussion and Analysis has been updated in Item 2 as a result of the aforementioned balance sheet reclassification. This reclassification did not change the previously reported Net sales, Net earnings, Earnings per common share or cash flows for the periods included.

Except as described in the preceding paragraph, no other changes have been made to the Original Filing and other than Item 1 and Item 2, this amendment does not otherwise update information in the Original Filing. Pursuant to Rule 12b-15, currently dated certifications of the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer are provided.

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A. O. Smith Corporation

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PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION**ITEM 1 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

A.O. SMITH CORPORATION
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF EARNINGS
Three and Nine Months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002
(dollars in millions, except for per share data)
(unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30		Nine Months Ended September 30	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Electrical Products	\$ 201.2	\$ 197.5	\$ 641.9	\$ 612.9
Water Systems	155.2	154.9	520.0	497.7
Net sales	356.4	352.4	1,161.9	1,110.6
Cost of products sold	294.9	286.1	938.4	885.9
Gross profit	61.5	66.3	223.5	224.7
Selling, general and administrative expenses	48.8	48.3	154.5	151.7
Interest expense	3.1	3.2	9.0	11.1
Other (income) expense - net	0.3	(0.1)	0.6	0.6
Provision for income taxes	9.3	14.9	59.4	61.3
	3.3	4.9	19.8	21.2
Net Earnings	\$ 6.0	\$ 10.0	\$ 39.6	\$ 40.1
Earnings per Common Share				
Basic	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.35	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.52
Diluted	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.34	\$ 1.33	\$ 1.49
Dividends per Common Share	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.40

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION**ITEM 1 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

A.O. SMITH CORPORATION
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
September 30, 2003 and December 31, 2002
(dollars in millions, except share data)

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	(unaudited) September 30, 2003	December 31, 2002
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 35.4	\$ 32.8
Receivables	225.7	215.5
Inventories	248.7	200.4
Deferred income taxes	21.9	26.7
Other current assets	14.0	12.9
Total Current Assets	545.7	488.3
Property, plant and equipment	713.6	686.2
Less accumulated depreciation	361.4	323.5
Net property, plant and equipment	352.2	362.7
Goodwill	302.4	302.4
Other assets	73.8	71.5
Total Assets	\$ 1,274.1	\$ 1,224.9
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Short-term debt	\$ 83.2	\$ --
Trade payables	148.1	131.4
Accrued payroll and benefits	35.3	38.7
Accrued liabilities	45.7	60.4
Product warranty	19.3	19.5
Long-term debt due within one year	8.6	11.7
Total Current Liabilities	340.2	261.7
Long-term debt	176.6	239.1
Pension liability	82.0	90.8
Other liabilities	110.1	114.7
Deferred income taxes	17.0	7.5
Total Liabilities	725.9	713.8
Stockholders' Equity		
Class A common stock, \$5 par value: authorized 14,000,000 shares; issued 8,546,799 and 8,595,435	42.7	43.0
Common stock, \$1 par value: authorized 60,000,000 shares; issued 24,002,563 and 23,953,927	24.0	24.0
Capital in excess of par value	73.7	73.5
Retained earnings	615.5	588.5
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(115.4)	(121.9)
Treasury stock at cost	(92.3)	(96.0)
Total Stockholders' Equity	548.2	511.1
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$ 1,274.1	\$ 1,224.9

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements

PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION**ITEM 1 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****ITEM 1 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

A.O. SMITH CORPORATION
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
Nine Months Ended September 30, 2003 and 2002
(dollars in millions)
(unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30	
	2003	2002
Operating Activities		
Continuing		
Net earnings	\$ 39.6	\$ 40.1
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	37.1	36.6
Amortization	1.6	1.1
Net change in current assets and liabilities	(49.0)	22.1
Net change in other noncurrent assets and liabilities	(2.5)	(0.8)
Other	(0.7)	(0.7)
Cash Provided by Operating Activities	26.1	98.4
Investing Activities		
Capital expenditures	(28.1)	(25.8)
Acquisition of business	(3.1)	(11.8)
Cash Used in Investing Activities	(31.2)	(37.6)
Financing Activities		
Short-term debt retired - net	(27.1)	--
Long-term debt incurred	50.0	--
Long-term debt retired	(5.2)	(174.9)
Net proceeds from common stock offering	--	127.5
Other stock transactions	2.6	5.3
Dividends paid	(12.5)	(10.2)
Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities	7.8	(52.3)
Cash (Used in) Provided by Discontinued Operations	(0.1)	3.7
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	2.6	12.2
Cash and cash equivalents-beginning of period	32.8	20.7
Cash and Cash Equivalents - End of Period	\$ 35.4	\$ 32.9

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

A. O. SMITH CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
September 30, 2003
(unaudited)

1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States for interim financial information and pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the three- and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2003 are not necessarily indicative of the results expected for the full year. It is suggested that the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included in the company's latest Annual Report on Form 10-K. Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the 2003 presentation.

2. Acquisitions

On July 1, 2002, A. O. Smith Corporation (the company) completed the purchase of the hermetic motor assets of the Athens Products (Athens) division of Electrolux Group for cash consideration of \$9.7 million. The purchase price was allocated to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed based upon current estimates of their respective fair values at the date of acquisition.

In late 2002, the company acquired the motor manufacturing assets of Jiangsu Changheng Group Co. Ltd. (Changheng) for a total of \$15.3 million of which \$3.1 million of deferred payments was paid in 2003. The purchase price was allocated to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed based upon current estimates of their respective fair values at the date of acquisition.

In connection with the Athens acquisition and other acquisitions by the company, aggregate additional purchase liabilities of \$26.5 million were recorded at the respective acquisition dates for employee severance and relocation, as well as certain facility exit costs. As of September 30, 2003, costs incurred and charged against these liabilities to date totaled \$22.0 million.

3. Business Improvement Programs

In the fourth quarter of 2001, the company recorded restructuring and related charges of \$9.4 million. The charges included employee separation costs of \$7.7 million associated with product or component manufacturing repositioning and the realignment of certain administrative functions. The resulting reduction of workforce is approximately 150 salaried and 775 hourly employees. In addition, the company recorded facility impairment and lease charges of \$1.7 million representing estimated costs of facilities to be vacated. The company spent \$5.2 million through September 30, 2003 for employee severance and separation costs. At September 30, 2003, the company estimates approximately 170 employees are yet to be impacted. The realignment activities will be substantially completed prior to December 31, 2003.

4. Inventories (dollars in millions)

	September 30, 2003	December 31, 2002
Finished products	\$ 162.9	\$ 130.7
Work in process	46.1	39.7
Raw materials	68.0	58.3
	<u>277.0</u>	<u>228.7</u>
LIFO reserve	28.3	28.3
	<u>\$ 248.7</u>	<u>\$ 200.4</u>

5. Long-Term Debt

The company's credit agreement and term notes contain certain conditions and provisions which restrict the company's payment of dividends. Under the most restrictive of these provisions, retained earnings of \$109.4 million were unrestricted as of September 30, 2003.

During June 2003, the company issued \$50 million in senior notes with various insurance companies. The notes range in maturity between 2013 and 2016 and carry a weighted-average interest rate of slightly less than 4.5%. The proceeds of the notes were used to repay commercial paper and revolver borrowing.

6. Product Warranty (dollars in millions)

The company offers warranties on the sales of certain of its products and records an accrual for the estimated future claims. Such accruals are based upon historical experience and management's estimate of the level of future claims. The following table presents the company's warranty liability activity for the nine-months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002, respectively:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Balance at January 1	\$ 70.5	\$ 69.6
Expense	21.4	23.4
Claims settled	(22.6)	(20.5)
	<u>69.3</u>	<u>72.5</u>
Balance at September 30	<u>\$ 69.3</u>	<u>\$ 72.5</u>

7. Common Stock Issuance

On May 10, 2002, the company completed the sale of 4,776,065 shares of its common stock held in treasury. The \$127.5 million net proceeds from the offering were used to reduce long-term debt.

8. Comprehensive Earnings (dollars in millions)

The company's comprehensive earnings are comprised of net earnings, foreign currency translation adjustments, and realized and unrealized gains and losses on cash flow derivative instruments.

	<u>Three Months Ended September 30</u>		<u>Nine Months Ended September 30</u>	
	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Net Earnings	\$ 6.0	\$ 10.0	\$ 39.6	\$ 40.1
Other comprehensive earnings (loss):				
Foreign currency translation adjustments	0.1	(0.3)	1.8	1.8
Unrealized net gains (losses) on cash flow derivative instruments less related income tax provision (benefit): 2003 - (\$1.6) & \$2.9; 2002 - (\$2.0) & (\$3.1)	(2.4)	(3.2)	4.6	(4.8)
Comprehensive Earnings	<u>\$ 3.7</u>	<u>\$ 6.5</u>	<u>\$ 46.0</u>	<u>\$ 37.1</u>

9. Earnings per Share of Common Stock

The numerator for the calculation of basic and diluted earnings per share is net earnings. The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted weighted-average shares used in the earnings per share calculations:

	Three Months Ended September 30		Nine Months Ended September 30	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Denominator for basic earnings per share - weighted-average shares	29,074,083	28,752,219	29,007,013	26,355,164
Effect of dilutive stock options	706,028	698,739	646,286	663,251
Denominator for diluted earnings per share	29,780,111	29,450,958	29,653,299	27,018,415

10. Stock Based Compensation

The company has one stock-based employee compensation plan as more fully described in Note 11 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company's 2002 annual report on Form 10-K. SFAS No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, encourages, but does not require companies to record compensation cost for stock-based employee compensation plans at fair value. The company has chosen to continue applying Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees, and related interpretations in accounting for its stock option plan. Accordingly, because the number of shares is fixed and the exercise price of the stock options equals the market price of the underlying stock on the date of grant, no compensation expense has been recognized.

Had compensation cost been determined based upon the fair value at the grant date for awards under the plans based on the provisions of SFAS No. 123, the company's pro forma earnings and earnings per share would have been as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30		Nine Months Ended September 30	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
(dollars in millions, except per share amounts)				
Earnings:				
As reported	\$ 6.0	\$ 10.0	\$ 39.6	\$ 40.1
Deduct: Total stock based employee compensation expense determined under fair value based method, net of tax	(0.4)	(0.4)	(1.2)	(1.3)
Pro forma	\$ 5.6	\$ 9.6	\$ 38.4	\$ 38.8
Earnings per share:				
As reported:				
Basic	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.35	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.52
Diluted	0.20	0.34	1.33	1.49

	Three Months Ended September 30		Nine Months Ended September 30	
Pro forma:				
Basic	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.33	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.48
Diluted	0.19	0.33	1.29	1.44

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11. Operations by Segment (dollars in millions)

	Three Months Ended September 30		Nine Months Ended September 30	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Net sales				
Electrical Products	\$ 201.2	\$ 197.5	\$ 641.9	\$ 612.9
Water Systems	155.2	154.9	520.0	497.7
	<u>\$ 356.4</u>	<u>\$ 352.4</u>	<u>\$ 1,161.9</u>	<u>\$ 1,110.6</u>
Operating earnings				
Electrical Products	\$ 9.6	\$ 10.3	\$ 45.9	\$ 46.0
Water Systems	7.9	13.4	37.7	43.6
	<u>17.5</u>	<u>23.7</u>	<u>83.6</u>	<u>89.6</u>
Corporate expenses	(5.1)	(5.6)	(15.2)	(17.2)
	<u>12.4</u>	<u>18.1</u>	<u>68.4</u>	<u>72.4</u>
Earnings before interest and taxes	12.4	18.1	68.4	72.4
Interest expense	(3.1)	(3.2)	(9.0)	(11.1)
	<u>9.3</u>	<u>14.9</u>	<u>59.4</u>	<u>61.3</u>
Earnings before income taxes	9.3	14.9	59.4	61.3
Provision for income taxes	(3.3)	(4.9)	(19.8)	(21.2)
	<u>\$ 6.0</u>	<u>\$ 10.0</u>	<u>\$ 39.6</u>	<u>\$ 40.1</u>

Intersegment sales, which are immaterial, have been excluded from segment revenues.

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PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION**ITEM 2 MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS
THIRD QUARTER AND FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 2003 COMPARED TO 2002

Sales were \$356.4 million in the third quarter of 2003, \$4.0 million higher than sales of \$352.4 million in last year's third quarter. Sales for the first nine months of the year were \$1.16 billion, 4.6 percent higher than sales of \$1.11 billion in the same period last year. Higher sales from our 2002 acquisition of Jiangsu Changheng Group Co. Ltd. (Changheng) in our Electrical Products business accounted for the higher sales in the quarter. The increase in year-to-date sales was due primarily to our acquisitions of Athens Products and Jiangsu Changheng Group Co. Ltd. in our Electrical Products business, and higher water heater prices related to higher steel costs, and increased sales at our Chinese water heater operation.

Our gross profit margin for the third quarter of 2003 declined to 17.3 percent from 18.8 percent in the third quarter of 2002. Our year-to-date gross margin in 2003 was 19.2 percent compared with 20.2 percent in the same period in 2002. For the quarter and year to date, most of the decline in gross profit margin resulted from higher freight and manufacturing costs related to the introduction of the flammable vapor ignition resistant water heater product.

Selling, general and administrative expenses in the third quarter and first nine months of 2003 were higher than the same periods in 2002 by \$.5 million and \$2.8 million, respectively. The acquisitions made in 2002 contributed to the increase in the quarterly and year-to-date selling, general and administrative expense.

Despite higher debt levels, interest expense in the third quarter of 2003 was slightly lower than in the same period in 2002 due to lower interest rates. Interest expense for the first nine months of 2003 was \$2.1 million lower than the comparable period in 2002 due to lower average debt levels resulting from our May 10, 2002 stock offering, and lower interest rates.

We have significant pension benefit costs and credits that are developed from actuarial valuation. The valuations reflect key assumptions regarding, among other things, discount rates, expected return on plan assets, retirement ages, and years of service. Consideration is given to current market conditions, including changes in interest rates, in making these assumptions. Our assumption for the expected rate of return on pension plan assets is 9.0 percent in 2003 compared with 9.75 percent in 2002. Pension income recognized in the third quarter and first nine months of 2003 was \$2.9 million and \$8.7 million, respectively, and compared with \$4.1 million and \$12.7 million in the comparable periods of 2002. Our pension income is reflected as reductions to cost of products sold and selling, general, and administrative expense.

Our year-to-date effective tax rate was 33.4 percent compared with 34.5 percent for the first nine months of 2002. The year-to-date effective rate in 2003 was favorably impacted by release of a \$.7 million reserve upon resolution of a federal tax audit in May 2003. The effective rate for the total year 2003 should approximate 34.0 percent.

Net earnings for the third quarter of 2003 were \$6.0 million or \$.20 per share. Net earnings for the third quarter of 2002 were \$10.0 million or \$.34 per share. The third quarter decline in earnings was primarily due to costs associated with disruptions encountered with the launch of new flammable vapor ignition resistant product in our Water Systems business. For the first nine months of the year, our net earnings were \$39.6 million, slightly lower than net earnings of \$40.1 million in the same period of 2002. Despite a modest decline in year-to-date net earnings from 2002 to 2003, diluted earnings per share declined eleven percent, from \$1.49 in 2002 to \$1.33 in 2003. The majority of the earnings per share decline was due to the dilutive impact of the May 2002 stock offering.

Electrical Products

Third quarter sales for our Electrical Products segment were \$201.2 million, or \$3.7 million higher than sales of \$197.5 million in the third quarter of 2002. The increase in sales for the third quarter was attributable to our China acquisition at the end of 2002. Higher sales of air conditioning motors and motors sold through the distribution channel offset lower sales of motors for pumps, subfractional and general industry applications. Year-to-date sales for this segment were \$641.9 million, an increase of \$29.0 million from 2002 nine month sales of \$612.9 million. The year over year increase was due to our July 2002 acquisition of Athens Products, and the December 2002 Changheng acquisition.

Operating earnings for our Electrical Products segment in the third quarter declined to \$9.6 million from \$10.3 million in the third quarter of 2002. The decline in earnings was due primarily to a half million dollar operating loss associated with the Changheng motor acquisition. Earnings for the first nine months of 2003 were \$45.9 million, similar to the same period in 2002.

During the quarter we entered into a letter of intent to acquire the assets of Taicang Special Motor Co., Ltd., near Shanghai. Taicang will serve to expand our China manufacturing capability to include hermetic motors. The transaction is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2003.

Water Systems

Third quarter sales for our Water Systems segment were \$155.2 million, similar to the same period last year. Higher sales in China, coupled with price increases related to steel costs and the new flammable vapor ignition resistant product offset lower unit sales of residential and commercial water heaters. Water Systems sales for the first nine months of 2003 were \$520.0 million or \$22.3 million higher than the comparable period in 2002. Most of the increase was due to the price increase associated with steel costs, and a significant increase in sales at our Chinese water heater operation.

Third quarter operating earnings for our Water Systems segment were \$7.9 million or \$5.5 million lower than the third quarter of 2002. The lower earnings were the result of higher freight and one-time manufacturing costs associated with the launch of the flammable vapor ignition resistant product.

Outlook

As we indicated in our Sept. 24 press release and Form 8-K filed with the SEC, we expect earnings for 2003 to range between \$1.75 and \$1.80 per share. This reduction from our previous forecast was due to the earnings shortfall in the third quarter and efforts to reduce electric motor inventory in the fourth quarter. We expect these implementation difficulties to be behind us as we enter 2004. Accordingly, we expect earnings per share in 2004 to be in line with our strategic plan, in a range of \$2.40 to \$2.60 per share.

Liquidity & Capital Resources

Our working capital was \$205.5 million at September 30, 2003, \$21.1 million lower than at December 31, 2002. The majority of the change resulted from higher accounts receivable levels of \$10.2 million, higher inventory levels of \$48.3 million primarily related to product repositioning in our electrical products business and a new product launch in our water systems business, offset by an increase of \$83.2 million in short-term debt which represents outstanding commercial paper borrowings which had been classified as long-term debt at December 31, 2002. This reclassification is necessary as the company's \$250 million multi-year revolving credit agreement, which supports commercial paper borrowings, expires within the next twelve months. Cash provided by operating activities during the first nine months of 2003 was \$26.1 million compared with \$98.4 million provided during the same period in 2002. Essentially all of the difference is due to the higher investment in accounts receivable and inventory, as described above, during 2003 compared with 2002, and the receipt of a \$12.4 million tax refund in 2002. We project cash provided by operating activities of \$60 to \$70 million for the full year.

Our capital expenditures during the first nine months of 2003 totaled \$28.1 million, which was slightly higher than the capital spending during the same period last year. For the full year, we are projecting 2003 capital expenditures of approximately \$40 to \$45 million, compared with the \$42.5 million spent in 2002. We expect that cash flow during 2003 will adequately cover planned capital expenditures. We believe that our present facilities and planned capital expenditures are sufficient to provide adequate capacity for our operations in 2003.

Our total debt increased by \$17.6 million from \$250.8 million at December 31, 2002 to \$268.4 million at September 30, 2003. Our leverage as measured by the ratio of total debt to total capitalization was 33%, unchanged from the end of 2002. We did not enter into any significant operating leases during the first nine months of 2003.

At September 30, 2003, our company had available borrowing capacity of \$166.8 million under our credit facility. We believe that the combination of available borrowing capacity and operating cash flow will provide sufficient funds to finance our existing operations for the foreseeable future.

In connection with acquisitions, we have recorded aggregate purchase liabilities of \$26.5 million at the respective acquisition dates for employee severance and relocation as well as certain facility exit costs. As of September 30, 2003, we incurred and charged \$22.0 million against these liabilities. We expect the majority of the activities to be completed by December 31, 2003.

On October 7, 2003, our board of directors declared a regular quarterly dividend of \$.15 per share on our Common stock and Class A common stock, which is payable on November 17, 2003 to stockholders of record on October 31, 2003.

Critical Accounting Policies

Our accounting policies are described in Note 1 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements as disclosed in the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002. Also as disclosed in Note 1, the preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires the use of estimates and assumptions about future events that affect the amounts reported in the

financial statements and accompanying notes. Future events and their effects cannot be determined with absolute certainty. Therefore, the determination of estimates requires the exercise of judgment. Actual results inevitably will differ from those estimates, and such differences may be material to the financial statements.

The most significant accounting estimates inherent in the preparation of our financial statements include estimates associated with the evaluation of the impairment of goodwill, as well as the recoverability of receivables resulting from the payment of claims associated with the dip tube class action lawsuit (see Note 14 of notes to consolidated financial statements in the Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002). There are also significant estimates used in the determination of liabilities related to warranty activity, litigation, product liability, environmental matters and pensions and other post-retirement benefits. Various assumptions and other factors underlie the determination of these significant estimates. The process of determining significant estimates is fact-specific and takes into account factors such as historical experience and trends, and in some cases, actuarial techniques. We constantly reevaluate these significant factors and adjustments are made when facts and circumstances dictate.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) has issued SFAS No. 143, Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations, SFAS No. 146, Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities, SFAS No. 148, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation Transition and Disclosure, and FASB Interpretation Number (FIN) 46, Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities. SFAS No. 143, which was adopted on January 1, 2003, did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements since its adoption. SFAS No. 146 is effective for exit or disposal activities initiated after December 31, 2002. Adoption of this statement did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements. Effective December 31, 2002, we began making the disclosures required under SFAS No. 148. To date, FIN 46 has not had a material impact on our consolidated financial statements nor is FIN 46 expected to have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements in the future.

ITEM 3 QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURE OF MARKET RISK

As is more fully described in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002, we are exposed to various types of market risks, primarily currency and certain commodities. We monitor our risks in these areas on a continuous basis and generally enter into forward and futures contracts to minimize these exposures for periods of less than one year. Our company does not engage in speculation in our derivative strategies. It is important to note that gains and losses from our forward and futures contract activities are offset by changes in the underlying costs of the transactions being hedged.

ITEM 4 CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures

The chief executive officer and chief financial officer have evaluated the effectiveness of the company's disclosure controls and procedures as of September 30, 2003 and have concluded that these disclosure controls and procedures were adequate and effective to ensure that material information relating to the company and its consolidated subsidiaries would be made known to them by others within those entities.

Changes in internal controls

There were no significant changes in our internal controls over financial reporting or in other factors that could significantly affect our disclosure controls and procedures nor were there any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in our internal controls. As a result, no corrective actions were required or undertaken.

Forward Looking Statements

This document contains statements that we believe are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements generally can be identified by the use of words such as may, will, expect, intend, estimate, anticipate, believe, continue, or words of similar meaning. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated as of the date of this release. Factors that could cause such a variance include the following: instability in the company's electric motor and water products markets; inability to generate the synergistic cost savings from the acquisition of State Industries; the inability to implement cost-reduction programs; adverse changes in general economic conditions; significant increases in raw material prices; competitive pressures on the company's businesses; and the potential that assumptions on which the company based its expectations are inaccurate or will prove to be incorrect.

Forward-looking statements included in this document are made only as of the date of this filing, and the company is under no obligation to upgrade these statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributed to the company, or persons acting on its behalf, are qualified entirely by these cautionary statements.

PART II OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1 LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

There have been no material changes in the legal and environmental matters previously reported in Part 1, Item 3 and Note 14 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in the company's Form 10-K Report for the year ended December 31, 2002.

ITEM 4 SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

None.

ITEM 5 OTHER INFORMATION

None.

ITEM 6 EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

On July 17, 2003 the Company filed a Current Report on Form 8-K, reporting under Items 7 and 9, announcing the Company's results for the second quarter ended June 30, 2003 and its earnings outlook for 2003.

On September 24, 2003 the Company filed a Current Report on Form 8-K, reporting under Items 7 and 9, revising the Company's earnings outlook for 2003.

On October 15, 2003 the Company filed a Current Report on Form 8-K, reporting under Items 7 and 9, announcing the Company's results for the third quarter ended September 30, 2003 and its earnings outlook for 2003.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has authorized this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned.

A. O. SMITH CORPORATION

Date: December 12, 2003

By: */s/ John J. Kita*

John J. Kita
Vice President,
Treasurer and Controller

Date: December 12, 2003

By: */s/ Kenneth W. Krueger*

Kenneth W. Krueger
Senior Vice President
and Chief Financial Officer

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

<u>Exhibit Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
31.1	Certification of Periodic Report by the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
31.2	Certification of Periodic Report by the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
32	Written Statement of the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.