## 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
ROCKY BRANDS, INC.


## Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On July 24, 2008, Rocky Brands, Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release entitled "Rocky Brands, Inc. Announces Second Quarter 2008 Results" regarding its consolidated financial results for the quarter ended June 30, 2008. A copy of the Company's press release is furnished as Exhibit 99 to this Form $8-\mathrm{K}$ and is incorporated herein by reference.

The information in this Form 8-K and accompanying press release is being furnished under Item 2.02 and shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of such section, nor shall such information be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

The information contained or incorporated by reference in this Form 8-K contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Exchange Act, which are intended to be covered by the safe harbors created thereby. Those statements include, but may not be limited to, all statements regarding intent, beliefs, expectations, projections, forecasts, and plans of the Company and its management, and include statements in the accompanying press release regarding margin improvement, increased profitability and growth prospects (paragraph 10). These forward-looking statements involve numerous risks and uncertainties, including, without limitation, the various risks inherent in the Company's business as set forth in periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 (filed March 6, 2008). One or more of these factors have affected historical results, and could in the future affect the Company's businesses and financial results in future periods and could cause actual results to differ materially from plans and projections. Therefore there can be no assurance that the forward-looking statements contained or incorporated by reference in this Form 8 -K will prove to be accurate. In light of the significant uncertainties inherent in the forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference herein, the Company, or any other person should not regard the inclusion of such information as a representation that the objectives and plans of the Company will be achieved. All forward-looking statements contained or incorporated by reference in this Form 8-K are based on information presently available to the management of the Company. The Company assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

## Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

## (d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.
Description
99*
Press Release, dated July 24, 2008, entitled "Rocky Brands, Inc. Announces Second Quarter 2008 Results."

* Such press release is being "furnished" (not filed) under Item 2.02 of this Current Report on Form 8-K.


## 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.

Rocky Brands, Inc.

By: /s/ James E. McDonald
James E. McDonald, Executive Vice
President and Chief Financial Officer

## ROCKY BRANDS, INC.

| Company Contact: | Jim McDonald <br> Chief Financial Officer <br> $(740) 753-1951$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Investor Relations: | Integrated Corporate Relations, Inc. <br> Brendon Frey/Chad Jacobs <br> $(203) 682-8200$ |

## ROCKY BRANDS, INC. ANNOUNCES SECOND QUARTER FISCAL 2008 RESULTS <br> Company Reports Second Quarter Diluted Earnings Per Share of \$0.13 <br> Wholesale Gross Margin Increased 250 Basis Points <br> SG\&A Expenses Decreased Approximately $\$ 1.9$ million

NELSONVILLE, Ohio, July 24, 2008 - Rocky Brands, Inc. (NASDAQ: RCKY) today announced financial results for its second quarter ended June 30 , 2008.
For the second quarter of 2008 , net sales increased $2.9 \%$ to $\$ 60.5$ million versus net sales of $\$ 58.8$ million in the second quarter of 2007. The Company reported net income of $\$ 0.7$ million, or $\$ 0.13$ per diluted share versus a net loss of $\$ 1.4$ million or ( $\$ 0.25$ ) per diluted share a year ago.

Mike Brooks, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, commented, "Our second quarter performance was highlighted by the successful execution of our continuing strategy to enhance profitability. Due largely to more favorable sell-in terms with our retail partners and better utilization of our company owned factories, wholesale gross margins increased 250 basis points. At the same time, we were effective at controlling costs evidenced by the nearly $\$ 2.0$ million reduction in our operating expenses. These improvements allowed us to realize a significant increase in diluted earnings per share versus a year ago with a modest gain in our top-line."

## Second Quarter Results

Net sales for the second quarter increased to $\$ 60.5$ million compared to $\$ 58.8$ million a year ago. Wholesale sales for the second quarter were $\$ 42.5$ million compared to $\$ 41.9$ million for the same period in 2007. Retail sales for the second quarter were $\$ 16.2$ million compared to $\$ 16.6$ million for the same period in 2007. Military segment sales for the second quarter were $\$ 1.8$ million, compared to $\$ 0.3$ million in the same period in 2007.

Gross margin in the second quarter was $\$ 24.4$ million, or $40.3 \%$ of sales, compared to $\$ 23.9$ million or $40.7 \%$ of sales, for the same period last year. The prior year's results included a $\$ 0.5$ million reimbursement of expenses incurred in prior periods related to a cancelled military contract. Excluding this one-time reimbursement, second quarter 2007 gross margin would have been $40.0 \%$. Wholesale gross margin for the second quarter was $\$ 15.7$ million, or $36.9 \%$ of net sales, compared to $\$ 14.4$ million, or $34.4 \%$ of net sales, in the same period last year. The 250 basis point increase reflects an increase in sales price per unit, as well as a decrease in manufacturing costs resulting from increased operating efficiencies. Retail gross margin for the second quarter was $\$ 8.6$ million, or $52.8 \%$ of net sales, compared to $\$ 8.9$ million, or $53.6 \%$ of net sales, for the same period in 2007. Military gross margin for the second quarter was $\$ 0.2$ million, or $8.6 \%$ of net sales, compared to $\$ 0.6$ million for the same period in 2007 .

Selling, general and administrative (SG\&A) expenses decreased $8.4 \%$ or $\$ 1.9$ million to $\$ 20.9$ million, or $34.5 \%$ of sales, for the second quarter of 2008 compared to $\$ 22.8$ million, or $38.8 \%$ of sales, a year ago. The decrease in SG\&A expenses is primarily result of reductions in compensation expense and professional fees.

Income from operations increased $\$ 2.4$ million or 390 basis points to $\$ 3.5$ million or $5.8 \%$ of net sales, respectively for the period compared to $\$ 1.1 \mathrm{million}$, or $1.9 \%$ of net sales, in the prior year.

## Funded Debt and Interest Expense

The Company's funded debt at June 30, 2008 was $\$ 101.4$ million versus $\$ 102.7$ million at June 30,2007 . Interest expense decreased to $\$ 2.4$ million for the second quarter of 2008 versus $\$ 3.3$ million for the same period last year. The decrease in interest expense was primarily due to the write off of prepaid financing costs totaling $\$ 0.8$ million related to the refinancing of the company's term loans in the second quarter of 2007.

## Inventory

Inventory increased $\$ 1.5$ million, or $1.9 \%$, to $\$ 85.5$ million at June 30,2008 compared with $\$ 84.0$ million on the same date a year ago.
Mr. Brooks concluded, "We feel confident that our recent initiatives will enable us to post continued year-over-year margin improvement and drive increased profitability over the remainder of this year even though our top-line will be challenged. Longer-term, we are optimistic that our portfolio of company owned and licensed brands provide us with compelling growth prospects into the future."

## About Rocky Brands, Inc.

Rocky Brands, Inc. is a leading designer, manufacturer and marketer of premium quality footwear and apparel marketed under a portfolio of well recognized brand names including Rocky Outdoor Gear®, Georgia Boot ${ }^{\circledR}$, Durango $\circledR$, Lehigh ${ }^{\circledR}$, and the licensed brands Dickies ${ }^{\circledR}$, Zumfoot $\circledR$ and Michelin ${ }^{\circledR}$.

## Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

This press release contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which are intended to be covered by the safe harbors created thereby. Those statements include, but may not be limited to, all statements regarding intent, beliefs, expectations, projections, forecasts, and plans of the Company and its management, and include statements in this press release regarding margin improvement, increased profitability and growth prospects (paragraph 10). These forward-looking statements involve numerous risks and uncertainties, including, without limitation, the various risks inherent in the Company's business as set forth in periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 (filed March 6, 2008) and the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2008 (filed May 1, 2008). One or more of these factors have affected historical results, and could in the future affect the Company's businesses and financial results in future periods and could cause actual results to differ materially from plans and projections. Therefore there can be no assurance that the forward-looking statements included in this press release will prove to be accurate. In light of the significant uncertainties inherent in the forward-looking statements included herein, the Company, or any other person should not regard the inclusion of such information as a representation that the objectives and plans of the Company will be achieved. All forward-looking statements made in this press release are based on information presently available to the management of the Company. The Company assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements.

## Rocky Brands, Inc. and Subsidiaries

## Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet

|  | June 30, 2008 Unaudited | December 31, 2007 |  | June 30, 2007 Unaudited |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ASSETS: |  |  |  |  |
| CURRENT ASSETS: |  |  |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 3,025,144 | \$ | 6,537,884 | \$ 1,446,022 |
| Trade receivables - net | 59,245,156 |  | 65,931,092 | 60,117,677 |
| Other receivables | 1,010,254 |  | 674,707 | 1,368,863 |
| Inventories | 85,542,820 |  | 75,403,664 | 83,973,162 |
| Deferred income taxes | 1,952,536 |  | 1,952,536 | 3,902,775 |
| Income tax receivable | 729,024 |  | 719,945 | 2,561,538 |
| Prepaid expenses | 3,117,546 |  | 2,226,920 | 2,118,034 |
| Total current assets | 154,622,480 |  | 153,446,748 | 155,488,071 |
| FIXED ASSETS - net | 24,090,519 |  | 24,484,050 | 24,443,562 |
| DEFERRED PENSION ASSET | - |  | - | 40,432 |
| IDENTIFIED INTANGIBLES \& GOODWILL | 36,207,210 |  | 36,509,690 | 61,697,893 |
| OTHER ASSETS | 1,909,678 |  | 2,284,039 | 2,758,801 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$216,829,887 | \$ | 216,724,527 | \$ 244,428,759 |
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY: |  |  |  |  |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES: |  |  |  |  |
| Accounts payable | \$ 13,238,830 | \$ | 11,908,902 | \$ 15,471,858 |
| Current maturities - long term debt | 338,314 |  | 324,648 | 311,534 |
| Accrued expenses: |  |  |  |  |
| Taxes - other | 840,751 |  | 516,038 | 673,098 |
| Other | 4,703,591 |  | 5,421,083 | 4,090,661 |
| Total current liabilities | 19,121,486 |  | 18,170,671 | 20,547,151 |
| LONG TERM DEBT - less current maturities | 101,042,347 |  | 103,220,384 | 102,427,204 |
| DEFERRED INCOME TAXES | 12,951,828 |  | 13,247,953 | 17,009,025 |
| DEFERRED LIABILITIES | 1,257,606 |  | 360,928 | 324,038 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 134,373,267 |  | 134,999,936 | 140,307,418 |
| SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY: |  |  |  |  |
| Common stock, no par value; $25,000,000$ shares authorized; issued and outstanding June 30, 2008 - 5,508,278; December 31, 2007 - 5.488,293; June 30, 2007 - 5,482,293 | 54,168,292 |  | 53,997,960 | 53,802,287 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | $(1,500,197)$ |  | $(1,051,232)$ | $(942,036)$ |
| Retained earnings | 29,788,525 |  | 28,777,863 | 51,261,090 |
| Total shareholders' equity | 82,456,620 |  | 81,724,591 | 104,121,341 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY | \$ 216,829,887 | \$ | 216,724,527 | \$ 244,428,759 |

Rocky Brands, Inc. and Subsidiaries

## Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations

 (Unaudited)|  | Three Months Ended June 30, |  | Six Months EndedJune 30, |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| NET SALES | $\overline{\$ 60,507,421}$ | $\overline{\$ 58,797,664}$ | \$120,992,137 | $\overline{\$ 120,454,688}$ |
| COST OF GOODS SOLD | 36,111,328 | 34,871,210 | 70,646,379 | 70,447,548 |
| GROSS MARGIN | 24,396,093 | 23,926,454 | 50,345,758 | 50,007,140 |
| SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES | 20,875,459 | 22,790,579 | 43,936,946 | 45,113,520 |
| INCOME FROM OPERATIONS | 3,520,634 | 1,135,875 | 6,408,812 | 4,893,620 |
| OTHER INCOME AND (EXPENSES): |  |  |  |  |
| Interest expense | $(2,409,515)$ | $(3,344,076)$ | $(4,816,186)$ | $(5,842,921)$ |
| Other - net | 15,723 | 6,994 | $(2,869)$ | $(36,001)$ |
| Total other - net | (2,393,792) | $(3,337,082)$ | $(4,819,055)$ | $(5,878,922)$ |
| INCOME/(LOSS) BEFORE INCOME TAXES | 1,126,842 | $(2,201,207)$ | 1,589,757 | $(985,302)$ |
| INCOME TAX EXPENSE/(BENEFIT) | 394,000 | $(814,000)$ | 556,000 | $(364,000)$ |
| NET INCOME/(LOSS) | \$ 732,842 | \$ (1,387,207) | \$ 1,033,757 | \$ (621,302) |
| NET INCOME/(LOSS) PER SHARE |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | \$ 0.13 | \$ (0.25) | \$ 0.19 | \$ (0.11) |
| Diluted | \$ 0.13 | \$ (0.25) | \$ 0.19 | \$ (0.11) |
| WEIGHTED AVERAGE NUMBER OF COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING |  |  |  |  |
| Basic | 5,508,278 | 5,473,919 | 5,508,058 | 5,465,783 |
| Diluted | 5,520,625 | 5,473,919 | 5,523,265 | 5,465,783 |

