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 18, 2004

FTI CONSULTING, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Maryland (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 001-14875 (Commission File Number) 52-1261113 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

900 Bestgate Road, Suite 100, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (410) 224-8770

Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits.

99.1 Press Release dated February 18, 2004, of FTI Consulting, Inc.

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure

This Information is being furnished pursuant to Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition, under this Item 9 in accordance with SEC Release No. 33-8216.

On February 18, 2004, FTI Consulting, Inc. ("FTI") announced its financial results for the fiscal year and fourth quarter ended December 31, 2003 and other information, including certain business metrics by major practice area, and other developments. The full text of the Press Release is set forth in Exhibit 99.1 hereto. The attached Press Release contains some discussion regarding FTI's earnings from continuing operations before interest, taxes, and depreciation and amortization of property and equipment (EBITDA). Although EBITDA is not a measure of financial condition or performance determined in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, FTI believes that the use of EBITDA as a supplemental financial measure is indicative of FTI's capacity to service debt and thereby provides additional useful information to investors regarding its financial condition and results of operations.

The information included herein, including the Exhibit attached hereto, shall be deemed not to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Act of 1934 and shall not be incorporated by reference into any filing pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, regardless of any incorporation by reference language in any such filing.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, FTI has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

FTI CONSULTING, INC.

Dated: February 19, 2004

By: /s/ Theodore I. Pincus

Theodore I. Pincus Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Press Release dated February 18, 2004, of FTI Consulting, Inc.



FINANCIAL RELATIONS BOARD

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

RE: FTI Consulting, Inc.

AT FTI CONSULTING:

AT FINANCIAL RELATIONS BOARD:

Jack Dunn Chairman & CEO (410) 224-1483 Marilyn Windsor Lisa Fortuna
General Inquiries Analyst Inquiries
(702) 515-1260 (312) 640-6779

Tim Grace Media Inquiries (312) 640-6667

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2004

FTI CONSULTING, INC. ANNOUNCES FOURTH-QUARTER, FULL-YEAR RESULTS

Fourth-Quarter EPS \$0.30 after \$0.04 per Share Charge for Special Termination
Expenses and
\$0.01 per Share Change in Income Tax Rate;
Provides Additional 2004 Outlook Detail;
Files Lawsuit in Connection with Recent Departure of Senior Professionals

ANNAPOLIS, MD, February 18, 2004—FTI Consulting, Inc. (NYSE: FCN), the premier provider of corporate finance/restructuring, forensic and litigation consulting, and economic consulting, today reported its results for the fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2003. Results include the contribution of its fourth-quarter acquisitions of the DAS practice of KPMG, Ten Eyck Associates and Lexecon from the dates of acquisition. Results from continuing operations for the full-year 2003 exclude the results of SEA, a business unit sold in August 2003.

Fourth-Quarter Results

For the quarter, revenues were \$96.2 million, an increase of 6.2 percent compared with \$90.6 million for the fourth quarter of 2002. Income from operations declined 19.4 percent to \$22.8 million from \$28.3 million in the comparable quarter last year, and earnings per share declined 26.8 percent to \$0.30 on a diluted basis compared with \$0.41 last year. Earnings per share for the fourth quarter of 2003 were reduced by

MORE

approximately \$0.04 per diluted share for "special termination expenses" in FTI's restructuring practice, and were also reduced by approximately \$0.01 per diluted share for a change in the company's income tax rate for calendar year 2003 to 40.9 percent from the 40.5 percent estimated rate used in the first three quarters of 2003.

Cash flow provided by operations was \$12.2 million compared with \$49.2 million in the fourth quarter of 2002. Cash flow from operations for the fourth quarter was reduced by approximately \$5.6 million related to working capital used in connection with the DAS acquisition as FTI did not purchase DAS's working capital from KPMG. Earnings from continuing operations before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) were \$25.9 million compared with \$30.3 million in the prior year, a decrease of 14.4 percent. Although EBITDA is not a measure of financial condition or performance determined in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, the company believes that the use of EBITDA as a supplemental financial measure is indicative of the company's capacity to service debt and thereby provides additional useful information to investors regarding the company's financial condition and results of operations.

Utilization of billable personnel was approximately 74 percent for the quarter. Average rate per hour for the quarter was \$375. Total and billable headcounts at December 31, 2003 were 1,085 and 827, respectively. FTI's business practices are not operated as segments, and accordingly the company cannot accurately measure results of operations by practice area. The accompanying table indicates business metrics by major practice area for the fourth quarter that are estimates derived from classifying client engagements by the principal nature of the service.

During the fourth quarter of 2003, FTI repurchased 194,200 shares of its outstanding common stock at an average price of \$20.76 per share, for an aggregate of approximately \$4.0 million. At December 31, 2003, the remaining availability under the company's current share repurchase program was approximately \$46.0 million.

Year 2003 Results from Continuing Operations

For the year ended December 31, 2003, revenues from continuing operations were \$375.7 million, an increase of 67.6 percent compared with \$224.1 million for 2002. Income from continuing operations grew 79.8 percent to \$113.8 million from \$63.3 million in the prior year, and earnings per share from continuing operations grew 49.5 percent to \$1.54 on a diluted basis compared with \$1.02 last year. Earnings per share were reduced by approximately \$0.04 per diluted share for "special termination expenses" in FTI's restructuring practice. Cash flow provided by operations for the year ended December 31, 2003, was approximately \$95.6 million compared with \$77.6 million in the prior year. As noted above, cash flow from operations for 2003 was reduced by approximately \$5.6 million related to working capital used in connection with the DAS acquisition. EBITDA was \$123.5 million compared with \$68.7 million in the prior year, an increase of 79.8 percent.

Utilization of billable personnel was approximately 83 percent for the year. Average rate per hour for the year was \$363. The accompanying table indicates business metrics by major practice area for the full-year year 2003 that are estimates derived from classifying client engagements by the principal nature of the service.

MORE

At December 31, 2003, FTI had cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$5.8 million. Total long-term debt at December 31, 2003 was \$121.3 million, and no amounts were outstanding under the company's \$100 million revolving line of credit.

Discontinued Operations

Discontinued operations include the results of the company's former SEA practice group, which was sold on August 31, 2003. Income from operations of discontinued operations was \$1.6 million, or \$0.04 per share, for the year ended December 31, 2003 compared with \$3.1 million, or \$0.09 per share, for 2002. Net loss from sale of discontinued operations for the year ended December 31, 2003 was \$7.0 million, or \$0.17 per share, compared with net loss from sale of discontinued operations for 2002 of \$891,000, or \$0.02 per share. Including the discontinued SEA practice group, earnings per share for 2003 on a diluted basis were \$1.41.

Outlook for 2004

On February 9, 2004, FTI revised its revenue and earnings per share guidance for 2004. Revenues are anticipated to range from \$422.0 million to \$452.0 million, EBITDA to range from \$111.0 million to \$122.0 million, and earnings per diluted share to range from \$1.27 to \$1.40. The company expects cash flow from operations to range between \$70.0 million and \$80.0 million.

The accompanying table indicates business metrics by major practice area for the 2004 outlook that are estimates derived from classifying anticipated client engagements by the principal nature of the service.

Other Developments

FTI has filed suit in New Jersey against a number of former employees and the new corporation they formed. In it FTI asserts numerous claims, including that these former employees acted contrary to their obligations to FTI and breached their duties of loyalty by wrongfully soliciting numerous FTI employees to leave the company and to join them in a competitive venture. FTI is seeking unspecified money damages and does not seek to disrupt any ongoing client engagements or services that have been transferred to the defendants.

Fourth-Quarter and Year-End Conference Call

FTI will hold a conference call to discuss fourth-quarter and year-end results and management's outlook for 2004 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern time on Thursday, February 19, 2004. The call can be accessed live and will be available for replay over the Internet by logging onto www.vcall.com as well as on the company's website, www.fticonsulting.com, for 90 days.

MORE

About FTI Consulting

FTI is the premier provider of corporate finance/restructuring, forensic and litigation consulting, and economic consulting. Strategically located in 24 of the major US cities and London, FTI employs over 1,000 professionals consisting of numerous PhDs, MBAs, CPAs, CIRAs and CFEs who are committed to delivering the highest level of service to our clients. These clients include the world's largest corporations, financial institutions and law firms in matters involving financial and operational improvement and major litigation.

This press release includes "forward-looking" statements that involve uncertainties and risks. There can be no assurance that actual results will not differ from the company's expectations. The company has experienced fluctuating revenues, operating income and cash flow in some prior periods and expects this may occur from time to time in the future. As a result of these possible fluctuations, the company's actual results may differ from our projections. Other factors that could cause such differences include pace and timing of additional acquisitions, the company's ability to realize cost savings and efficiencies, competitive and general economic conditions, retention of staff and clients and other risks described in the company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

FINANCIAL TABLES FOLLOW

MORE

FTI CONSULTING, INC.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

(in thousands, except per share data)

		Three Months Ended		
		ber 31, 03	December 31, 2002	
		(unaudited)		
Revenues	\$ 9	6,225	\$ 90,557	
				
Direct cost of revenues		9,355	42,592	
Selling, general and administrative expenses		9,658	18,851	
Special termination charges		3,060		
Amortization of other intangible assets		1,355	781	
Total costs and expenses	7	3,428	62,224	
Operating income from continuing operations	2	2,797	28,333	
Interest expense, net		780	2,135	
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	2	2,017	26,198	
Income taxes		9,353	10,607	
Income from continuing operations	1	2,664	15,591	
Income from operations of discontinued operations, net of income taxes ⁽¹⁾		—	278	
Loss from sale of discontinued operations, net of income taxes	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	(891)	
Loss from discontinued operations		_	(613)	
Net income	\$ 1	2,664	\$ 14,978	
	<u> </u>			
Earnings per common share, basic				
Income from continuing operations	\$	0.30	\$ 0.44	
Loss from discontinued operations		<u> </u>	(0.02)	
Net income	\$	0.30	\$ 0.42	
Weighted average common shares outstanding - basic ⁽²⁾	4	1,893	35,681	
Earnings per common share, diluted				
Income from continuing operations	\$	0.30	\$ 0.41	
Loss from discontinued operations	*	_	(0.02)	
Net income	 \$	0.30	\$ 0.39	
	*			
Weighted average common shares outstanding - diluted ⁽²⁾	4	2,627	37,695	

⁽¹⁾ Revenues included in discontinued operations were \$0 for the three months ended December 31, 2003 and \$10,755 for the three months ended December 31, 2002

Supplemental Financial Data

	December 31, 2003	December 31, 2002	
	(in thou	sands)	
EBITDA from continuing operations ⁽³⁾			
EBITDA Reconciliation:			
EBITDA from continuing operations	\$ 25,897	\$ 30,258	
Depreciation and amortization	3,100	1,925	
Operating income	22,797	28,333	
Interest expense, net	780	2,135	
Income taxes	9,353	10,607	
Income from continuing operations	12,664	15,591	
Loss from discontinued operations	_	(613)	
Net income	\$ 12,664	\$ 14,978	

Weighted average shares have been adjusted to reflect the three-for-two stock split effected as a stock dividend paid to shareholders on June 4, 2003.

EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization) is a non-GAAP financial measure defined as operating income before depreciation and amortization. Generally, a non-GAAP financial measure is a numerical measure of a company's performance, financial position or cash flow that either excludes or includes amounts that are not normally excluded or included in the most directly comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. This measure, however, should be considered in addition to, and not as a substitute or superior to, operating income, cash flows or other measures of financial performance prepared in accordance with GAAP.

MORE

FTI CONSULTING, INC.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

(in thousands, except per share data)

	Year	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2003	December 31, 2002		
Revenues	\$ 375,695	\$ 224,113		
Direct cost of revenues	176,353	108,104		
Selling, general and administrative expenses	78,777	51,647		
Special termination charges	3,060	_		
Amortization of other intangible assets	3,680	1,033		
Total costs and expenses	261,870	160,784		
Operating income from continuing operations	113,825	63,329		
Interest expense, net	4,196	4,717		
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	109,629	58,612		
Income taxes	44,838	23,704		
Income from continuing operations	64,791	34,908		
Income from operations of discontinued operations, net of income taxes ⁽¹⁾	1,649	3,145		
Loss from sale of discontinued operations, net of income taxes	(6,971)	(891)		
Income (Loss) from discontinued operations	(5,322)	2,254		
Net income	\$ 59,469	\$ 37,162		
Earnings per common share, basic				
Income from continuing operations	\$ 1.58	\$ 1.09		
Income (Loss) from discontinued operations	(0.13)	0.07		
Net income	\$ 1.45	\$ 1.16		
Weighted average common shares outstanding - basic ⁽²⁾	40,925	32,031		
Earnings per common share, diluted				
Income from continuing operations	\$ 1.54	\$ 1.02		
Income (Loss) from discontinued operations	(0.13)	0.07		
Net income	\$ 1.41	\$ 1.09		
Weighted average common shares outstanding - diluted ⁽²⁾	42,046	34,197		

Revenues included in discontinued operations were \$24,011 for the year ended December 31, 2003 and \$45,833 for the year ended December 31, 2002

Supplemental Financial Data

	December 31, 2003	December 31, 2002
	(in thou	sands)
EBITDA from continuing operations ⁽³⁾		
EBITDA Reconciliation:		
EBITDA from continuing operations	\$ 123,537	\$ 68,662
Depreciation and amortization	9,712	5,333
		
Operating income	113,825	63,329
Interest expense, net	4,196	4,717
Income taxes	44,838	23,704
		
Income from continuing operations	64,791	34,908
Income (Loss) from discontinued operations	(5,322)	2,254
Net income	\$ 59,469	\$ 37,162

⁽³⁾ EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization) is a non-GAAP financial measure defined as operating income before depreciation

⁽²⁾ Weighted average shares have been adjusted to reflect the three-for-two stock split effected as a stock dividend paid to shareholders on June 4, 2003.

and amortization. Generally, a non-GAAP financial measure is a numerical measure of a company's performance, financial position or cash flow that either excludes or includes amounts that are not normally excluded or included in the most directly comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. This measure, however, should be considered in addition to, and not as a substitute or superior to, operating income, cash flows or other measures of financial performance prepared in accordance with GAAP.

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FTI CONSULTING, INC. BUSINESS METRICS BY MAJOR PRACTICE AREA

	Revenues (millions)	Utilization	Average Rate	Billable Headcount
	<u>` </u>			
Fourth Quarter 2003				
Corporate Finance/Restructuring	\$ 58.7	90%	\$424.00	305
Forensic and Litigation Consulting	\$ 29.1	61%	\$237.63	343
Economic Consulting	\$ 8.4	80%	\$328.00	179
Year 2003				
Corporate Finance/Restructuring	\$ 256.2	91%	\$408.00	305
Forensic and Litigation Consulting	\$ 102.2	70%	\$260.07	343
Economic Consulting	\$ 17.3	82%	\$291.00	179
Outlook for 2004				
Corporate Finance/Restructuring	\$ 159.0	80%	\$408.00	240
Forensic and Litigation Consulting	\$ 185.0	78%	\$303.26	385
Economic Consulting	\$ 93.0	76%	\$345.00	175

MORE

FTI CONSULTING, INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (in thousands)

December 31. December 31. 2002 **Operating activities** Net income 59,469 37,162 Adjustment to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities 7,003 4,947 Depreciation and other amortization Amortization of other intangible assets 3,680 1,033 Income tax benefit from stock option exercises 11,599 12,754 Provision for doubtful accounts 2,776 5,109 Loss on disposal of discontinued operations 6,971 1,209 2,296 849 Changes in operating assets and liabilities Accounts receivable, billed and unbilled 7,354 551 8,280 Income taxes, current and deferred 3,530 Accrued compensation expense 11,581 (1,841)Billings in excess of services provided (5,349)(11,000)Other assets and liabilities 1,446 1,855 Net cash provided by operating activities 95,616 77,648 **Investing activities** Purchase of property and equipment, net (10,612)(8,777)Cash received from sale of discontinued operations 12,150 Acquisition of subsidiaries and contingent payments (234,117)(145,409)Other 838 (2,200)Net cash used in investing activities (231,741)(156,386)Financing activities Issuance of common stock under equity compensation plans 17,458 9,532 Purchase of common stock (4,032)Proceeds from stock offering 99,223 Borrowings under long-term debt arrangements 119,000 109,121 Repayments on long-term debt (85,704)(49,333)Payment of bank financing fees and other (4,082)(3,411)Net cash provided by financing activities 131,984 75,788 Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents (4,141)(2,950)Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period 9,906 12,856

MORE

Cash and cash equivalents, end of period

Page 8

9,906

5,765

Year Ended

FTI CONSULTING, INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS AT DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND DECEMBER 31, 2002

(dollars in thousands, except per share data)

	December 31, 2003	December 31, 2002
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,765	\$ 9,906
Accounts receivable, net	50,409	29,271
Unbilled receivable, net	26,138	35,576
Other current assets	7,282	5,529
Current assets of discontinued operations	_	11,084
Total current assets	89,594	91,366
Property and equipment, net	20,757	14,938
Goodwill, net	514,544	299,241
Other intangible assets, net	10,137	4,067
Notes receivable	8,000	_
Other assets	7,449	5,999
Noncurrent assets of discontinued operations	_	14,920
Total assets	\$ 650,481	\$ 430,531
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and other accrued expenses	\$ 48,939	\$ 36,810
Deferred income taxes	193	193
Current portion of long-term debt	16,250	20,000
Billings in excess of services provided	9,161	19,921
Current liabilities of discontinued operations	_	664
Total current liabilities	74,543	77,588
Total current informacs		
Long-term debt, less current portion	105,000	77,833
Deferred income taxes and other liabilities	15,782	7,135
Stockholders' equity		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 5,000,000 shares authorized, none outstanding	_	
Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 75,000,000 shares authorized; 42,252,843 shares issued and outstanding in		
2003 and 36,006,438 shares issued and outstanding in 2002	423	360
Additional paid-in capital	332,823	200,456
Unearned compensation	(5,733)	(346)
Retained earnings	127,667	68,198
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(24)	(693)
Total stockholders' equity	455,156	267,975
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 650,481	\$ 430,531

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