
**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 23, 2017

HILLENBRAND, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Indiana

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

1-33794

(Commission File Number)

26-1342272

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**One Batesville Boulevard
Batesville, Indiana**

(Address of Principal Executive Office)

47006

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(812) 934-7500**

Not Applicable

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 8.01 Other Events.

On February 23, 2017, Hillenbrand, Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release to announce that its Board of Directors has increased the authorization under the Company's share repurchase program by an additional \$100 million. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this current report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

| <u>Exhibit Number</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|-----------------------|--|
| 99.1 | Press Release, dated February 23, 2017, of the Company |

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.

HILLENBRAND, INC.

Date: February 23, 2017

BY: /S/ Nicholas R. Farrell

Nicholas R. Farrell

Vice President, General Counsel,

Secretary and Chief Compliance Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit Number | Description |
|----------------|--|
| 99.1 | Press Release, dated February 23, 2017, of the Company |

HILLENBRAND

Hillenbrand Announces \$100 Million Increase in Share Repurchase Plan

- **Board expands share repurchase authorization to \$200 million, effective immediately**
- **\$71.4 million have been utilized through December 31, 2016**

BATESVILLE, Ind., February 23, 2017 --/PRNewswire/ --Hillenbrand, Inc. (NYSE: HI) announced today that the Board of Directors authorized an increase of \$100 million in the company's existing stock repurchase program. The authorization is effective immediately and brings the maximum cumulative repurchase authorization to \$200 million. As of December 31, 2016, the company has completed \$71.4 million in share repurchases under the program.

The additional \$100 million supports Hillenbrand's practice of returning cash to shareholders. The expanded share repurchase plan does not change the company's overall capital allocation strategy or its commitment to M&A.

"The board's action to increase the authorization for share repurchases demonstrates their confidence in the future earnings and cash generation power of Hillenbrand," said Joe Raver, President and CEO of Hillenbrand. "The increase in authorization allows us to continue to utilize our strong free cash flow to return capital to shareholders beyond the existing dividend program."

Purchases under the program may be made in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions from time to time at management's discretion. The repurchase program may be suspended or discontinued at any time.

-30-

About Hillenbrand

Hillenbrand (www.hillenbrand.com) is a global diversified industrial company with multiple market-leading brands that serve a wide variety of industries across the globe. We pursue profitable growth and robust cash generation in order to drive increased value for our shareholders. Hillenbrand's portfolio is composed of two business segments: the Process Equipment Group and Batesville. The Process Equipment Group businesses design, develop, manufacture and service highly engineered industrial equipment around the world. Batesville is a recognized leader in the North American death care industry. Hillenbrand is publicly traded on the NYSE under "HI".

CONTACTS

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