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 7, 2018

COHERENT, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

001-33962

(Commission File No.)

94-1622541

(IRS Employer Identification Number)

5100 Patrick Henry Drive Santa Clara, CA 95054

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(408) 764-4000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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))
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR §230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2).
Emerging growth company □
If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. \square

ITEM 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On February 7, 2018, Coherent, Inc. ("Coherent") issued a press release regarding its financial results for the fiscal quarter ended December 30, 2017. A copy of the press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this report.

NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES: Coherent utilizes a number of different financial measures, both GAAP and non-GAAP, in analyzing and assessing the overall business performance, for making operating decisions and for forecasting and planning future periods. Coherent considers the use of non-GAAP financial measures helpful in assessing its current financial performance, ongoing operations and prospects for the future. Ongoing operations are the ongoing revenue and expenses of the business, excluding certain costs and expenses that Coherent does not anticipate to recur on a quarterly basis or which do not reflect ongoing operations. While Coherent uses non-GAAP financial measures as a tool to enhance its understanding of certain aspects of its financial performance, Coherent does not consider these measures to be a substitute for, or superior to, the information provided by GAAP financial measures. Consistent with this approach, Coherent believes that disclosing non-GAAP financial measures to the readers of its financial statements provides such readers with useful supplemental data that, while not a substitute for GAAP financial measures, allows for greater transparency in the review of its financial and operational performance. In assessing the overall health of its business, Coherent excluded items in the following general categories described below:

Net income and net income per diluted share. Coherent has excluded certain recurring and non-recurring items in order to enhance investors' understanding of its ongoing operations and to compare these results across multiple fiscal periods, particularly where a one-time event may have an impact in one fiscal quarter and not another.

Each of the non-GAAP financial measures described above, and used herein, should not be considered in isolation from, or as a substitute for, a measure of financial performance prepared in accordance with GAAP. Further, investors are cautioned that there are inherent limitations associated with the use of each of these non-GAAP financial measures as an analytical tool. In particular, these non-GAAP financial measures are not based on a comprehensive set of accounting rules or principles, and many of the adjustments to the GAAP financial measures reflect the exclusion of items that are recurring and will be reflected in Coherent's financial results for the foreseeable future. In addition, other companies, including other companies in Coherent's industry, may calculate non-GAAP financial measures differently than Coherent does, limiting their usefulness as a comparative tool.

ITEM 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Press release dated February 7, 2018

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.

COHERENT, INC.

Date: February 7, 2018

By: /s/ Kevin S. Palatnik

Kevin S. Palatnik Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer



Contact: Kevin Palatnik
EVP & Chief Financial Officer
+1 (408) 764-4110
Kevin Palatnik@coherent.com

February 7, 2018
Press Release No. 1420
For Immediate Release:

Coherent, Inc. Reports First Fiscal Quarter Results

SANTA CLARA, CA, February 7, 2018 -- Coherent, Inc. (NASDAQ, COHR), one of the world's leading providers of lasers, laser-based technologies and laser-based system solutions in a broad range of scientific, commercial and industrial applications, today announced financial results for its first fiscal quarter ended December 30, 2017.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	Three Months Ended					
	Dec. 30, 2017		S	ep. 30, 2017		Dec. 31, 2016
GAAP Results						
(in millions except per share data)						
Net sales	\$	477.6	\$	490.3	\$	346.1
Net income	\$	41.9	\$	73.8	\$	30.4
Diluted EPS	\$	1.67	\$	2.96	\$	1.23
Non-GAAP Results						
(in millions except per share data)						
Net income	\$	88.6	\$	92.5	\$	63.4
Diluted EPS	\$	3.54	\$	3.72	\$	2.57

FIRST FISCAL QUARTER DETAILS

For the first fiscal quarter ended December 30, 2017, Coherent announced net sales of \$477.6 million and net income, on a U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) basis, of \$41.9 million, or \$1.67 per diluted share. These results include \$41.7 million, or \$1.67 per diluted share, of largely one time additional income tax expense due to the provisions under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act as well as a \$12.5 million, or \$0.50 per diluted share, benefit from the adoption of new rules for accounting for excess tax benefits and deficiencies for employee stock-based compensation. The Securities and Exchange Commission has issued rules that allow for a measurement period of up to one year after the enactment date of the Tax Act to finalize the recording of the related tax impacts. Coherent currently anticipates finalizing and recording any resulting adjustments by the end of the quarter ending September 29, 2018. These results compare to net sales of \$346.1 million and net income of \$30.4 million, or \$1.23 per diluted share, for the first quarter of fiscal 2017.

Non-GAAP net income for the first quarter of fiscal 2018 was \$88.6 million, or \$3.54 per diluted share. Non-GAAP net income for the first quarter of fiscal 2017 was \$63.4 million, or \$2.57 per diluted share. Reconciliations of GAAP to non-

GAAP financial measures for the three months ended December 30, 2017, September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 appear in the financial statements portion of this release under the heading "Reconciliation of GAAP to Non-GAAP net income."

Net sales for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2017 were \$490.3 million and net income, on a GAAP basis, was \$73.8 million, or \$2.96 per diluted share. Non-GAAP net income for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2017 was \$92.5 million, or \$3.72 per diluted share.

As previously announced, on November 7, 2016, Coherent completed its acquisition of Rofin-Sinar Technologies, Inc. ("Rofin"), one of the world's leading developers and manufacturers of high-performance industrial laser sources and laser-based solutions and components. As a result, Rofin's operating results were consolidated for the period from November 7, 2016 through December 31, 2016 in Coherent's first fiscal quarter results ended December 31, 2016, and a full quarter of Rofin's operating results in Coherent's fourth and first fiscal quarter results ended September 30, 2017 and December 30, 2017, respectively.

"There has been a lot of turbulence in the display market over the last several weeks, raising investors' concerns about the timing and/or sustainability of the investment cycle. We conducted a channel check and the results indicated no current sign of customers seeking to delay or cancel deliveries of existing ELA systems. We also reviewed fab utilization rates and system installations and concluded that service revenues are in-line with our expectations. During the quarter, orders from semicap applications were strong for expansion of memory capacity. We received our first volume order for high-power fiber lasers from one of the largest Chinese machine tool manufacturers. We also saw a solid uptick in medical device manufacturing workstations," stated John Ambroseo, Coherent's President and Chief Executive Officer. "We were pleased with our financial results for the first quarter of fiscal 2018, which enabled another €75 million voluntary debt payment. We have now repaid approximately one third of the debt used to finance the Rofin transaction. In addition, as a result of our strong cash generation, our Board has approved a share repurchase authorization of up to \$100 million," he added.

CONFERENCE CALL REMINDER

The Company will host a conference call today to discuss its financial results at 1:30 P.M. Pacific (4:30 P.M. Eastern). A listen-only broadcast of the conference call and a transcript of management's prepared remarks can be accessed on the Company's website at http://www.coherent.com/Investors/. For those who are not able to listen to the live broadcast, the call will be archived for approximately three months on the Company's website.

Summarized statement of operations information is as follows (unaudited, in thousands except per share data):

	Three Months Ended					
	Dec. 30, 2017		Sep. 30, 2017		De	c. 31, 2016
Net sales	\$	477,565	\$	490,298	\$	346,073
Cost of sales ^{(A)(B)(D)(E)(F)}		260,542		268,244		204,559
Gross profit		217,023		222,054		141,514
Operating expenses:						
Research & development(A)(B)(F)		31,392		31,063		27,084
Selling, general & administrative ^{(A)(B)(E)(F)(G)}		73,437		73,482		73,768
Gain from business combination(C)						(5,416)
Impairment of assets held for sale (I)		265		2,916		
Amortization of intangible assets ^(D)		2,606		2,964		3,878
Total operating expenses		107,700		110,425		99,314
Income from operations		109,323		111,629		42,200
Other income (expense), net(B) (H)		(8,500)		(10,415)		5,172
Income from continuing operations, before						
income taxes		100,823		101,214		47,372
Provision for income taxes (J)		58,920		28,327		16,674
Net income from continuing operations		41,903		72,887		30,698
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of income taxes		(2)		865		(290)
Net income	\$	41,901	\$	73,752	\$	30,408
						,
Net income (loss) per share:						
Basic from continuing operations		1.70		2.97		1.26
Basic from discontinued operations				0.03		(0.01)
Basic earnings per share	\$	1.70	\$	3.00	\$	1.25
Diluted from continuing operations		1.67		2.93		1.25
Diluted from discontinued operations		_		0.03		(0.01)
Diluted earnings per share	\$	1.67	\$	2.96	\$	1.23
Shares used in computations:						
Basic		24,635		24,568		24,347
Diluted		25,025		24,883		24,644

(A) Stock-based compensation expense included in operating results is summarized below (all footnote amounts are unaudited, in thousands, except per share data):

Stock-based compensation expense	Three Months Ended						
	Dec. 30, 2017		Sep.	Sep. 30, 2017		31, 2016	
Cost of sales	\$	988	\$	923	\$	960	
Research & development		668		684		1,053	
Selling, general & administrative		5,420		5,588		7,642	
Impact on income from operations	\$	7,076	\$	7,195	\$	9,655	

For the quarters ended December 30, 2017, September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the impact on net income, net of tax was \$5,467 (\$0.22 per diluted share), \$5,277 (\$0.21 per diluted share) and \$8,166 (\$0.33 per diluted share), respectively.

(B) Changes in deferred compensation plan liabilities are included in cost of sales and operating expenses while gains and losses on deferred compensation plan assets are included in other income (expense), net. Deferred compensation expense (benefit) included in operating results is summarized below:

Deferred compensation expense	Three Months Ended						
(benefit)	Dec.	30, 2017	Sep. 30, 2017		Dec. 31, 2016		
Cost of sales	\$	78	\$	43	\$	1	
Research & development		359		133		25	
Selling, general & administrative		1,627		692		(62)	
Impact on income from operations	\$	2,064	\$	868	\$	(36)	

For the quarters ended December 30, 2017, September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the impact on other income (expense), net from gains or losses on deferred compensation plan assets was income of \$1,906, \$883 and \$10, respectively.

- (C) For the quarter ended December 31, 2016, the gain from business combination was \$5,416 (\$3,426 net of tax (\$0.14 per diluted share)).
- (**D**) For the quarters ended December 30, 2017, September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the impact of amortization of intangibles expense was \$15,100 (\$10,773 net of tax (\$0.43 per diluted share)), \$16,253 (\$11,546 net of tax (\$0.46 per diluted share)), and \$12,088 (\$7,726 net of tax (\$0.31 per diluted share)), respectively.
- (E) For the quarter ended December 31, 2016, the impact of inventory and favorable lease step-up costs related to acquisitions was \$9,304 (\$6,469 net of tax (\$0.26 per diluted share)).
- (F) For the quarters ended December 30, 2017, September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, the impact of restructuring charges was \$1,160 (\$850 net of tax (\$0.04 per diluted share)), \$3,201 (\$2,273 net of tax (\$0.09 per diluted share)) and \$7,062 (\$4,600 net of tax (\$0.19 per diluted share)), respectively.
- (G) The quarter ended December 31, 2016 included \$14,228 (\$14,492 net of tax (\$0.59 per diluted share)) of costs related to the acquisition of Rofin.
- (H) For the quarter ended December 31, 2016, the gain on our hedge of the debt commitment and issuance of the debt was \$11,298 (\$7,147 net of tax (\$0.29 per diluted share)) and interest expense on the debt commitment was \$2,665 (\$1,844 net of tax (\$0.07 per diluted share)).
- (I) For the quarters ended December 30, 2017 and September 30, 2017, the impairment of net assets held for sale was \$265 (\$265 net of tax (\$0.01 per diluted share)) and \$2,916 (\$1,885 net of tax (\$0.08 per diluted share)), respectively.
- (J) The quarter ended December 30, 2017 included \$41,745 (\$1.67 per diluted share) non-recurring tax expense due to the U.S. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act transition tax and deferred tax remeasurement and \$12,451 (\$0.50 per diluted share) tax benefit from the adoption of new rules for accounting for excess tax benefits and tax deficiencies for employee stock-based compensation. The quarter ended September 30, 2017 included \$1,358 (\$0.05 per diluted share) non-recurring tax benefit from the closure of audits.

Summarized balance sheet information is as follows (unaudited, in thousands):

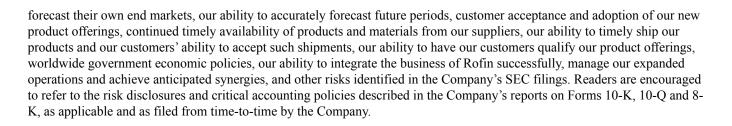
	D	ec. 30, 2017	Sept. 30, 2017		
<u>ASSETS</u>		_		_	
Current assets:					
Cash, cash equivalents, restricted cash and short-term investments	\$	424,546	\$	476,673	
Accounts receivable, net		309,132		305,668	
Inventories		432,809		414,807	
Prepaid expenses and other assets		77,003		70,268	
Assets held-for-sale		8,577		44,248	
Total current assets		1,252,067		1,311,664	
Property and equipment, net		291,308		278,850	
Other assets		733,284		747,286	
Total assets	\$	2,276,659	\$	2,337,800	
			-		
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY					
Current liabilities:					
Short-term borrowings	\$	6,928	\$	5,078	
Accounts payable		81,397		75,860	
Other current liabilities		304,876		338,207	
Total current liabilities		393,201		419,145	
Other long-term liabilities		688,077		755,391	
Total stockholders' equity		1,195,381		1,163,264	
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$	2,276,659	\$	2,337,800	

Reconciliation of GAAP to Non-GAAP net income (unaudited, in thousands (other than per share data), net of tax):

		Three Months Ended				
	Dec	e. 30, 2017	Sep. 30, 2017	Dec. 31, 2016		
GAAP net income from continuing operations	\$	41,903	\$ 72,887	\$ 30,698		
Stock-based compensation expense		5,467	5,277	8,166		
Amortization of intangible assets		10,773	11,546	7,726		
Restructuring charges		850	2,273	4,600		
Gain on business combination		_	-	(3,426)		
Non-recurring tax expense (benefit)		41,745	(1,358)	_		
Tax benefit from stock-based compensation expense		(12,451)	_	_		
Impairment of assets held for sale		265	1,885	_		
Acquisition-related costs		_	_	14,492		
Interest expense on debt commitment		_	_	1,844		
Gain on hedge of debt and debt commitment		_	_	(7,147)		
Purchase accounting step-up		_	_	6,469		
Non-GAAP net income	\$	88,552	\$ 92,510	\$ 63,422		
Non-GAAP net income per diluted share	\$	3.54	\$ 3.72	\$ 2.57		

RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Company and its business are subject to risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, risks associated with growth in demand for our products, customer acceptance of our products, the worldwide demand for flat panel displays, the demand for and use of our products in commercial applications, our ability to general sufficient cash to fund capital spending or debt repayment, our successful implementation of our customer design wins, our and our customers' exposure to risks associated with worldwide economic conditions, our customers' ability to cancel long-term purchase orders, the ability of our customers to



Founded in 1966, Coherent, Inc. is one of the world's leading providers of lasers, laser-based technologies and laser-based system solutions for scientific, commercial and industrial customers. Our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Global Select Market and is part of the Russell 1000 and Standard & Poor's MidCap 400 Index. For more information about Coherent, visit the company's website at www.coherent.com for product and financial updates.

5100 Patrick Henry Dr., Santa Clara, California 95054. Telephone (408) 764-4000