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HERCULES INC Form 8-K May 01, 2003

> 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): May 1, 2003

Hercules Incorporated ______ (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

51-0023450 001-00496 Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of (Commission File Number) (IRS Employer Identification Num

incorporation)

Hercules Plaza 1313 North Market Street Wilmington, Delaware 19894-0001

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(302) 594-5000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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Item 12. Disclosure of Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On May 1, 2003, Hercules Incorporated ("Hercules") reported its first quarter 2003 results. A press release detailing the first quarter 2003 financial performance, dated May 1, 2003, was issued by Hercules and is furnished as an exhibit hereto and incorporated by reference herein.

The press release includes presentations of earnings before interest and taxes ("EBIT") and earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization ("EBITDA"), both of which are non-GAAP financial measures. EBIT and EBITDA are measures commonly used by the capital markets to value enterprises. Interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization can vary significantly between companies due in part to differences in accounting policies, tax strategies, levels of indebtedness and interest rates. Excluding these items provides insight into the underlying results of operations and facilitates comparisons between Hercules and other companies. In addition, EBITDA is considered a reasonable approximation of gross cash flow and is one of the measures used for determining debt covenant compliance. Management believes that EBIT and EBITDA information

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is useful to investors for these reasons.

The table below provides a reconciliation of EBITDA to net cash provided by (used in) operations for the three months ended March 31, 2003 and 2002:

	THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31	
	2003	2002
EBITDA (See Table 1 of press release):	\$ 78	\$ 72
Provision for income taxes	(8)	(2)
Interest, debt expense and preferred security		
distributions	(34)	(51)
Operating cash flows, net	(24)	(34)
Net cash provided by (used in) operations	\$ 12	\$(15)
	====	====

(c) Exhibits.

99.1 Press Release of Hercules Incorporated dated May 1, 2003.

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SIGNATURE

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

HERCULES INCORPORATED

May 1, 2003

By: /s/ Israel J. Floyd

Israel J. Floyd

Corporate Secretary and General Counsel

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Number	Exhibit
99.1	Press Release of Hercules Incorporated dated May 1, 2003.