

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

[x] Quarterly report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the quarterly period ended November 30, 2002 or

[] Transition report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number: 0-7459

A. Schulman, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware

34-0514850

(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

3550 West Market Street, Akron, Ohio

44333

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Zip Code)

(330) 666-3751

(Registrant’s Telephone Number, including Area Code)

(Former Name, Former Address and Former Fiscal Year, if Changed Since Last Report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes X No _____

Number of common shares outstanding as of December 31, 2002 – 29,471,393

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I — FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1 CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME (Notes 1, 2 and 3)

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (Notes 1, 2 and 3)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (Notes 1, 2 and 3)

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Item 2 — Management Discussion and Analysis

Item 3 — Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk

Item 4 – Controls and Procedures

Part II — Other Information

Item 4 — Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

Item 6 — Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

SIGNATURES

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER CERTIFICATION

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER CERTIFICATION

PART I — FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1 CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**A. SCHULMAN, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME (Notes 1, 2 and 3)**

(In thousands except per share data)

	For the three months ended November 30,	
	2002	2001
	Unaudited	
Net sales	\$266,866	\$238,148
Interest and other income	586	548
	<u>267,452</u>	<u>238,696</u>
Cost and expenses:		
Cost of sales	225,145	202,459
Selling, general and administrative expenses	26,810	26,318
Interest expense	1,200	1,453
Foreign currency transaction gain	(518)	(514)
Minority interest	216	185
	<u>252,853</u>	<u>229,901</u>
Income before taxes	14,599	8,795
Provision for U.S. and foreign income taxes (Note 9)	6,255	3,585
Net income	8,344	5,210
Less: Preferred stock dividends	(13)	(13)
Net income applicable to common stock	<u>\$ 8,331</u>	<u>\$ 5,197</u>
Weighted-average number of shares outstanding (Note 6):		
Basic	29,463	29,213
Diluted	29,962	29,213
Earnings per share (Note 6):		
Basic	<u>\$ 0.28</u>	<u>\$ 0.18</u>
Diluted	<u>\$ 0.28</u>	<u>\$ 0.18</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

A. SCHULMAN, INC.
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (Notes 1, 2 and 3)

(In thousands)

	November 30, 2002	August 31, 2002
	Unaudited	
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 4)	\$ 48,206	\$ 63,984
Short-term investments, at cost	14,211	—
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$7,546 at November 30, 2002 and \$6,912 at August 31, 2002	180,491	172,327
Inventories, average cost or market, whichever is lower	173,307	169,719
Prepays, including tax effect of temporary differences	16,184	13,257
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total current assets	432,399	419,287
Other assets:		
Deferred charges, etc., including tax effect of temporary differences	8,991	8,826
Goodwill (Note 10)	6,583	6,558
Intangible assets (Note 10)	502	545
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	16,076	15,929
Property, plant and equipment, at cost:		
Land and improvements	11,458	11,408
Buildings and leasehold improvements	104,747	103,536
Machinery and equipment	256,437	254,431
Furniture and fixtures	26,810	26,811
Construction in progress	8,043	6,625
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	407,495	402,811
Accumulated depreciation and investment grants of \$931 at November 30, 2002 and \$937 at August 31, 2002	231,983	225,695
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	175,512	177,116
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$623,987	\$612,332
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

A. SCHULMAN, INC.
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (Notes 1, 2 and 3)

(In thousands)

	November 30, 2002	August 31, 2002
	Unaudited	
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Current portion of long-term debt	\$ 417	\$ 413
Accounts payable	73,633	71,107
U.S. and foreign income taxes payable	4,749	6,751
Accrued payrolls, taxes and related benefits	21,889	22,688
Other accrued liabilities	22,038	17,373
Total current liabilities	122,726	118,332
Long-term debt	78,906	81,038
Other long-term liabilities	44,950	43,471
Deferred income taxes	8,341	6,957
Minority interest	5,689	6,173
Stockholders' equity (Note 5):		
Preferred stock, 5% cumulative, \$100 par value, authorized, issued and outstanding - 10,567 shares at November 30, 2002 and August 31, 2002	1,057	1,057
Special stock 1,000,000 shares authorized none outstanding	—	—
Common stock, \$1 par value		
Authorized - 75,000,000 shares		
Issued - 38,680,613 shares at November 30, 2002 and 38,629,967 at August 31, 2002	38,681	38,630
Other capital	52,630	51,974
Accumulated other comprehensive income (Note 7)	(29,455)	(31,230)
Retained earnings	466,584	462,270
Treasury stock, at cost, 9,211,095 shares at November 30, 2002 and August 31, 2002	(164,231)	(164,231)
Unearned stock grant compensation	(1,891)	(2,109)
Common stockholders' equity	362,318	355,304
Total stockholders' equity	363,375	356,361
	\$ 623,987	\$ 612,332

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

A. SCHULMAN, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (Notes 1, 2 and 3)

(In thousands)

	For the three months ended November 30,	
	2002	2001
	Unaudited	
Provided from (used in) operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 8,344	\$ 5,210
Items not requiring the current use of cash:		
Depreciation	6,117	5,568
Non-current deferred taxes	1,185	2,673
Foreign pension and other deferred compensation	734	722
Postretirement benefit obligation	249	361
Changes in working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(7,167)	(1,643)
Inventories	(2,793)	7,667
Prepays	(168)	(1,290)
Accounts payable	2,267	3,348
Income taxes	(3,044)	2,703
Accrued payrolls and other accrued liabilities	3,119	3,600
Changes in other assets and other long-term liabilities	(794)	601
Net cash provided from operating activities	8,049	29,520
Provided from (used in) investing activities:		
Expenditures for property, plant and equipment	(4,050)	(7,286)
Disposals of property, plant and equipment	77	457
Short term investments	(14,199)	—
Net cash used in investing activities	(18,172)	(6,829)
Provided from (used in) financing activities:		
Cash dividends paid	(4,017)	(3,995)
Notes payable	—	(308)
Reduction in long-term debt	(2,143)	(5,130)
Minority interest	(484)	185
Exercise of stock options	707	—
Net cash used in financing activities	(5,937)	(9,248)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	282	(4,376)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(15,778)	9,067
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	63,984	52,586
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 48,206	\$61,653

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

A. SCHULMAN, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the three months ended November 30, 2002 and 2001

- (1) The Company's accounting policy regarding revenue recognition is to recognize revenue when products are shipped to unaffiliated customers.

The Company provides tolling services as a fee for processing of material provided and owned by customers. On some occasions, the Company is required to provide certain amounts of its materials, such as additives or packaging. These materials are charged to the customer as an addition to the tolling fees. The only amounts recorded as revenue related to tolling are the processing fees and the charges related to materials provided by the Company.

The accounting policies for the periods presented are the same as described in Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies to the consolidated financial statements contained in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2002.

- (2) The results of operations for the three months ended November 30, 2002 are not necessarily indicative of the results expected for the year ended August 31, 2003.
- (3) The interim financial statements furnished reflect all adjustments, which are, in the opinion of management, necessary to a fair presentation of the results of the interim period presented. All such adjustments are of a normal recurring nature.
- (4) All highly liquid investments purchased with a maturity of three months or less are considered to be cash equivalents. Such investments amounted to \$26,287,000 at November 30, 2002 and \$35,824,000 at August 31, 2002.

A. SCHULMAN, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the three months ended November 30, 2002 and 2001

(5) A summary of the stockholders’ equity section for the three months ended November 30, 2002 and 2001 is as follows:

	(In thousands) (Unaudited)							
	Preferred Stock	Common Stock	Other Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Retained Earnings	Treasury Stock	Unearned Stock Grant Compensation	Total Stockholders' Equity
Balance at September 1, 2002	\$1,057	\$38,630	\$51,974	\$(31,230)	\$462,270	\$(164,231)	\$(2,109)	\$356,361
Comprehensive income								
Net income	—	—	—	—	8,344	—	—	
Foreign currency translation adjustment	—	—	—	1,775	—	—	—	
Total comprehensive income								10,119
Cash dividends paid or accrued:								
Preferred, \$1.25 per share	—	—	—	—	(13)	—	—	(13)
Common, \$.135 per share	—	—	—	—	(4,017)	—	—	(4,017)
Stock options exercised	—	51	656	—	—	—	—	707
Amortization of restricted stock	—	—	—	—	—	—	218	218
Balance at November 30, 2002	\$1,057	\$38,681	\$52,630	\$(29,455)	\$466,584	\$(164,231)	\$(1,891)	\$363,375

A. SCHULMAN, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the three months ended November 30, 2002 and 2001

(In thousands)
(Unaudited)

	Preferred Stock	Common Stock	Other Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Retained Earnings	Treasury Stock	Unearned Stock Grant Compensation	Total Stockholders' Equity
Balance at September 1, 2001	\$1,057	\$38,424	\$48,504	\$(44,945)	\$446,142	\$(164,231)	\$(2,872)	\$322,079
Comprehensive income						—	—	
Net income	—	—	—	—	5,210	—	—	
Foreign currency translation adjustment	—	—	—	(3,828)	—	—	—	
Total comprehensive income								1,382
Cash dividends paid or accrued:								
Preferred, \$1.25 per share	—	—	—	—	(13)	—	—	(13)
Common, \$.135 per share	—	—	—	—	(3,981)	—	—	(3,981)
Amortization of restricted stock	—	—	—	—	—	—	213	213
Balance at November 30, 2001	\$1,057	\$38,424	\$48,504	\$(48,773)	\$447,358	\$(164,231)	\$(2,659)	\$319,680

A. SCHULMAN, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the three months ended November 30, 2002 and 2001

(6) Basic earnings per share is computed by dividing income available to common shareholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted earnings per share reflects the potential dilution that could occur if common stock equivalents were exercised and then shared in the earnings of the company.

During the three months ended November 30, 2002, no shares were repurchased by the Company under its existing repurchase authorization of 1.7 million shares. The Company may repurchase additional common stock in fiscal year 2003 subject to market conditions.

(7) The components of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income is as follows:

(In thousands)

	November 30, 2002	August 31, 2002
Foreign currency translation	\$29,253	\$31,028
Minimum pension liability adjustment	202	202
	<u>\$29,455</u>	<u>\$31,230</u>

(8) The Company is engaged in the sale of plastic resins in various forms, which are used as raw materials by its customers. The Company operates in two geographic business segments, North America and Europe. A reconciliation of segment income to consolidated income before tax is presented below.

A. SCHULMAN, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the three months ended November 30, 2002 and 2001

(In thousands)
(Unaudited)

	North America	Europe	Interest Expense, net	Consolidated
Three months ended November 30, 2002				
Sales to unaffiliated customers	\$99,871	\$166,995	\$ —	\$266,866
Gross Profit	\$11,317	\$ 30,404	\$ —	\$ 41,721
Operating income (loss)	\$ (1,739)	\$ 17,040	\$ —	\$ 15,301
Interest expense, net	—	—	(702)	(702)
Income (loss) before taxes	\$ (1,739)	\$ 17,040	\$(702)	\$ 14,599
Three months ended November 30, 2001				
Sales to unaffiliated customers	\$94,124	\$144,024	\$ —	\$238,148
Gross Profit	\$12,852	\$ 22,837	\$ —	\$ 35,689
Operating income	\$ 237	\$ 9,516	\$ —	\$ 9,753
Interest expense, net	—	—	(958)	(958)
Income before taxes	\$ 237	\$ 9,516	\$(958)	\$ 8,795

The majority of the Company’s sales for the quarter ended November 30, 2002 can be classified into four primary product families. The approximate percentage of consolidated sales for these product families is as follows:

Product Family	Percentage of Sales for the quarter ended November 30, 2002
Color and additive concentrates	35%
Polyolefins	26
Engineered compounds	26
Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)	6
Other	7
	100%

A. SCHULMAN, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the three months ended November 30, 2002 and 2001

- (9) The effective tax rate of 42.8% for the three months ended November 30, 2002 and 40.8% for the three months ended November 30, 2001 is greater than the statutory rate of 35% primarily because no tax benefit is available or has been recognized on losses in the United States.
- (10) On September 1, 2001 the Company adopted the provisions of SFAS No. 141, "Business Combinations," and SFAS No. 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets." SFAS No. 141 requires that all business combinations be accounted for by the purchase method and that certain acquired intangible assets be recognized as assets apart from goodwill. SFAS No. 142 provides that goodwill should not be amortized but instead be tested for impairment annually at the reporting unit level. In accordance with SFAS No. 142, the Company completed a transitional goodwill impairment test during the second quarter of fiscal 2002, which resulted in no impairment loss being recognized upon adoption. The Company also conducts a formal impairment test of goodwill at the reporting unit level on an annual basis and between annual tests if an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying value.

Accumulated amortization for intangibles was approximately \$573,000 and \$520,000 at November 30, 2002 and August 31, 2002, respectively. The amortization expense for intangibles was approximately \$48,000 and \$50,000 for the three months ended November 30, 2002 and 2001, respectively. The Company does not anticipate any significant changes in amortization expense for intangibles in future periods.

- (11) On September 1, 2002 the Company adopted the provisions of SFAS No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets" ("SFAS 144"), which addresses financial accounting and reporting for the impairment or disposal of long-lived assets. SFAS 144 applies to all long-lived assets, including discontinued operations, and develops one accounting model for long-lived assets to be disposed of by sale. The adoption of SFAS 144 did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.
- (12) On September 1, 2002 the Company adopted the provisions of SFAS No. 143, "Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations" ("SFAS 143"), which addresses the recognition and remeasurement of obligations associated with the retirement of tangible long-lived assets and the associated asset retirement cost. The adoption of SFAS 143 did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

Item 2 — Management Discussion and Analysis

Results of Operations

Net sales for the fiscal 2003 first quarter were \$266.9 million, an increase of 12.1% from the comparable period in 2002. A comparison of net sales by business segment is as follows:

Sales	(in thousands)		
	2003	2002	Increase
Europe	\$166,995	\$144,024	\$22,971
North America	99,871	94,124	5,747
	\$266,866	\$238,148	\$28,718

The two largest markets served by the Company are the packaging and automotive markets. For the quarter ended November 30, 2002, approximately 41% of net sales were derived from the packaging market. Net sales to the automotive market accounted for approximately 22% of the total sales in the quarter ended November 30, 2002.

The majority of the Company’s sales for the fiscal year 2003 quarter can be classified into four primary product families. The approximate percentage of consolidated sales for these product families is as follows:

Product Family	Percentage of Sales For three months ended November 30, 2002
Color and Additive Concentrates	35%
Polyolefins	26
Engineered Compounds	26
Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)	6
Other	7
	100%

The translation effect of foreign currencies, primarily the strong Euro, increased sales by \$12.6 million in 2003.

An analysis of the percentage increase in 2003 sales are as follows:

	Increase
Tonnage	4.2%
Translation Effect	5.3
Price / Mix	2.6
Percentage Increase in Sales	12.1%

European tonnage increased 1.6% for 2003 due to continuing strong demand for film and packaging products and capacity increases in France and Germany. North America tonnage was up 9% for the quarter due to improved demand and an increase in the sale of commodity products.

A comparison of gross profit dollars and percentages by business segment for the 2003 and 2002 quarters are as follows:

		(in thousands)		Increase / (Decrease)	
		2003	2002	\$	%
Gross Profit \$					
Europe	\$30,404	\$22,837	\$ 7,567	33.1	
North America	11,317	12,852	(1,535)	(11.9)	
	\$41,721	\$35,689	\$ 6,032	16.9	
Gross Profit %					
Europe	18.2	15.9			
North America	11.3	13.7			
	15.6	15.0			

European margins and gross profits were up from the same period last year due to continuing strong demand for film and packaging products.

North American gross profit margins declined to 11.3% from 13.7% last year due to higher resin prices, continuing competitive pressures and weak demand for value-added engineered products.

A comparison of capacity utilization levels for the quarter is as follows:

	2003	2002
Europe	82%	89%
North America	81%	79%
Worldwide	81%	84%

European capacity utilization declined, primarily due to the addition of four new manufacturing lines in the second half of fiscal 2002. North American utilization was slightly higher than last year.

A comparison of operating income by business segment for the 2003 and 2002 quarters is as follows:

	(in thousands)		Increase / (Decrease)
Operating income (loss) :	2003	2002	in Income
Europe	\$17,040	\$9,516	\$ 7,524
North America	(1,739)	237	(1,976)
Interest expense, net	(702)	(958)	256
	\$14,599	\$8,795	\$ 5,804

The operating income improvement in Europe was due to higher profit margins , an increase in tonnage compared to the 2002 quarter and the positive impact of the Euro. North American operating income declined due to lower margins, continuing competitive price pressure, and weak demand for value-added engineered products.

Selling, general and administrative expenses for the 2003 quarter were up 1.9% or \$0.5 million compared to 2002, primarily due to the translation effect of the Euro.

Interest expense declined in the 2003 quarter, mainly due to lower interest rates and borrowings.

Foreign currency transaction gains were primarily due to changes in the value of currencies in major areas where the Company operates. The majority of the gain in the 2003 quarter relates to changes in the value of the U.S. dollar compared with the Mexican peso.

Minority interest represents a 30% equity position of Mitsubishi Chemical MKV Company in a partnership with the Company and a 35% equity position of P.T. Prima Polycon Indah in an Indonesian joint venture with the Company.

The effective tax rate of 42.8% in fiscal year 2003 and 40.8% in fiscal year 2002 is greater than the statutory rate of 35% primarily because no tax benefit is available or has been recognized on losses in the United States.

The translation effect of foreign currencies increased net income by \$0.9 million or \$0.03 per share for the quarter ended November 30, 2002.

There was an improvement in fiscal 2003 first quarter earnings over the comparable period last year. Nevertheless, the economic environment continues to be difficult and extremely competitive. The Company's second fiscal quarter is normally weaker than its first quarter due to the traditional holiday season in December. The Company has recently noted pressure on margins and other uncertainties that indicate some potential market softening, especially in North America. The Company's European order levels remain quite good and the higher value of the Euro will continue to have a positive impact on earnings.

At this time, the Company expects that fiscal 2003 second quarter earnings should be in the range of \$0.15 to \$0.18 per share, compared with net income of \$0.15 per share for last year's second quarter.

Critical Accounting Policies

The Company has identified critical accounting policies that, as a result of the judgments, uncertainties, and the operations involved, could result in material changes to its financial condition or results of operations under different conditions or using different assumptions. The Company's most critical accounting policies relate to the allowance for doubtful accounts, inventory reserves and interim provisions for income taxes.

Management records an allowance for doubtful accounts receivable based on the careful monitoring of the current and projected credit quality of the Company’s customers, historical experience, customer payment history, expected trends and other factors that affect collectibility. Changes in these factors or changes in economic circumstances could result in changes to the allowance for doubtful accounts.

Management establishes an inventory reserve based on historical experience and amounts expected to be realized for slow-moving and obsolete inventory. The Company monitors its slow-moving and obsolete inventory on a quarterly basis and makes adjustments as considered necessary. The proceeds from the sale or disposition of these inventories may differ from the net recorded amount.

The Company’s quarterly provision for income taxes involves a significant amount of judgment by management. Quarterly, the provision for income taxes is based upon actual year to date results plus an estimate of pretax income for the remainder of the year. This provision is impacted by the income and tax rates of the countries where the Company operates. A change in the geographical source of the Company’s income can have a significant effect on the tax rate.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

	(in millions)		
	November 30, 2002	August 31, 2002	% Change
Cash and Cash Equivalents	48.2	64.0	(24.7)%
Working Capital	309.7	301.0	2.9
Long-Term Debt	78.9	81.0	(2.6)
Stockholders’ Equity	363.4	356.4	2.0

Cash provided from operations was \$8.0 million compared with \$29.5 million in the same quarter last year. The decrease was the result of a higher level of inventories and trade receivables to support higher sales levels.

As of November 30, 2002, the current ratio was 3.5 to 1 and working capital was \$309.7 million. Accounts receivable and inventories increased \$8.1 million and \$3.6 million respectively. Accounts receivable and inventories were higher as of November 30, 2002, compared with August 31, 2002, primarily to support higher sales levels and because of the translation effect of foreign currencies which increased the combined balances by \$1.9 million.

The Company’s cash and cash equivalents decreased \$15.8 million, or 24.7% from August 31, 2002. The cash decreased primarily due to an increase of \$14.2 million in short-term investments. Currently, the Company intends to use the short-term investments towards its plan to repatriate 22 million Euros as dividends during fiscal 2003. These funds will be used to reduce long-term debt and for other working capital requirements.

During the quarter ended November 30, 2002, the Company repatriated approximately \$6.6 million as dividends from its foreign subsidiaries. The cash was used to repay long-term debt and for other working capital requirements. The Company reduced long-term debt by \$2.1 million. Total long-term debt declined to \$78.9 million as of November 30, 2002.

Capital expenditures for the quarter ended November 30, 2002 were \$4.0 million. The largest amount of capital expenditures occurred in the United States, Indonesia, France, Belgium and Italy. The expenditures were for enhancements to existing equipment, additional warehousing in France and a new manufacturing line in Indonesia. The Company anticipates capital expenditures for fiscal 2003 will be approximately \$25.0 million, depending on the progress of each project.

The ratio of long-term liabilities to capital was 25.4% at November 30, 2002 and 25.9% at August 31, 2002. This ratio is calculated by dividing the sum of long-term debt and other long-term liabilities by the sum of total stockholders' equity, long-term debt and other long-term liabilities. The primary factors contributing to this decrease were increased earnings, foreign currency translation, issuance of common stock from the exercise of options and a decline of \$2.1 million in borrowings under the revolving credit agreement.

The Company has a \$130,000,000 revolving credit agreement which expires in October 2005. Under terms of the agreement, the Company is required to satisfy certain financial and operating covenants including leverage ratio, interest coverage ratio and capitalization ratio. The revolving credit agreement is unsecured.

The Company has an outstanding private placement of \$50,000,000 in Senior Notes due in 2009. The interest rate is fixed at 7.27% and is payable quarterly with principal due upon maturity in 2009. In 1999, the Company completed an interest rate lock in order to reduce the interest cost over the life of the notes. Proceeds from this transaction totaling \$630,000 have been deferred and are being amortized over the life of the loan, effectively reducing the annual interest rate from 7.27% to 7.14%. Under this agreement, as of November 30, 2002, approximately \$44 million of retained earnings was available for the payment of cash dividends. The Company’s latest review of the covenants under these agreements indicate no defaults or any non-compliance with their covenants.

The Company leases certain land and buildings for its European segment under a capital lease. The total amount due on this capital lease at November 30, 2002 is \$1.0 million.

Aggregate maturities of long-term debt and capital lease obligations subsequent to November 30, 2002 are presented below:

	(in thousands)				
	Total	Less than 1 year	1-3 years	4-5 years	After 5 years
Long-term Debt	\$78,303	\$126	\$28,177	\$ —	\$50,000
Capital Lease Obligations	1,020	291	581	148	—
	<u>\$79,323</u>	<u>\$417</u>	<u>\$28,758</u>	<u>\$148</u>	<u>\$50,000</u>

Operating lease information is provided in footnote 11 of the Company’s Annual Report. The only significant change to this information is the addition of an operating lease with aggregate future minimum rentals of approximately \$1.0 million payable ratably over three years.

The Company’s outstanding commercial commitments at November 30, 2002 are not material to the Company’s financial position, liquidity or results of operations.

The Company has declared and paid a quarterly cash dividend of \$.135 per share during the November 2002 quarter totaling \$4.0 million. Cash flow from operations has been sufficient to fund the payment of these dividends.

During the quarter ended November 30, 2002, the Company did not repurchase any shares of its common stock. Approximately 1.7 million shares remain under a six million-share authorization approved by the Board of Directors in August 1998. The Company may repurchase additional common stock in fiscal year 2003 subject to market conditions. For the quarter ended November 30, 2002, 50,646 common shares were issued upon the exercise of employee stock options. The total amount received from the exercise of these options was \$0.7 million.

The assets and liabilities of the Company's foreign subsidiaries are translated into U.S. dollars using current exchange rates. Income statement items are translated at average exchange rates prevailing during the period. The resulting translation adjustments are recorded in the "accumulated other comprehensive income" account in stockholders' equity. The weakening of the U.S. dollar during the quarter ended November 30, 2002 increased this account by \$1.8 million.

New Accounting Pronouncements

In June 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the "FASB") issued SFAS No. 143, "Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations" ("SFAS 143"), which addresses the recognition and remeasurement of obligations associated with the retirement of tangible long-lived assets and the associated asset retirement cost. The provisions of SFAS 143 were adopted by the Company effective September 1, 2002. The adoption of SFAS 143 did not have a material impact on the Company's financial position or results of operations.

In August 2001, the FASB issued SFAS No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets" ("SFAS 144"), which addresses financial accounting and reporting for the impairment or disposal of long-lived assets. SFAS 144 applies to all long-lived assets, including discontinued operations, and develops one accounting model for long-lived assets to be disposed of by sale. This Statement supersedes SFAS 121, "Accounting for the Impairment of Long-lived Assets and for Long-lived Assets to be Disposed of" ("SFAS 121") and the accounting and reporting provisions of APB No. 30, "Reporting the Results of Operations – Reporting the Effects of Disposal of a Segment of a Business, and Extraordinary, Unusual and Infrequently Occurring Events and Transactions" ("APB30"), for the disposal of a segment of a business. The provisions of SFAS 144 were adopted by the Company effective September 1, 2002. The adoption of

SFAS 144 did not have a material impact on the Company’s financial position or results of operations.

In July 2002, the FASB issued SFAS No. 146 (“SFAS 146”), “Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities.” SFAS 146 requires that a liability for a cost associated with an exit or disposal activity be recognized when the liability is incurred and establishes that fair value is the objective for initial measurement of the liability. This statement is effective for exit or disposal activities initiated after December 31, 2002. The adoption of SFAS 146 did not have a material impact on the Company’s financial position or results of operations.

Cautionary Statements

Statements in this report which are not historical facts are forward-looking statements which involve risks and uncertainties and actual events or results could differ materially from those expressed or implied in this report. These “forward-looking statements” are based on currently available information. They are also inherently uncertain, and investors must recognize that events could turn out to be significantly different from what we had expected. Examples of such uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Worldwide and regional economic, business and political conditions
- Fluctuations in the value of currencies in major areas where the Company operates, i.e. the U.S. dollar, Euro, U.K. pound sterling, Canadian dollar, Mexican peso and Indonesian rupiah, etc.
- Fluctuations in prices of plastic resins and other raw materials
- Changes in customer demand and requirements

Item 3 — Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk

The company enters into forward exchange contracts to reduce its exposure to fluctuations in related foreign currencies. These contracts are with major financial institutions and the risk of loss is considered remote. The total value of open

contracts and any risk to the Company as a result of these arrangements is not material to the Company's financial position, liquidity or results of operations.

Item 4 – Controls and Procedures

Within 90 days prior to the date of this report, the Company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-14(c) and 15d-14(c)). Based upon that evaluation, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure information required to be disclosed in the Company's reports that it files under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Commission's rules and forms. There have been no significant changes in the Company's internal controls or in other factors which could significantly affect internal controls subsequent to the date the Company carried out its evaluation.

Part II — Other Information

Items 1 through 3 and 5 are not applicable or the answer to such items is negative; therefore, the items have been omitted and no reference is required in this Report.

Item 4 — Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

- (a) The Company’s annual meeting of stockholders was held on December 5, 2002.
- (b) The following Class I Directors were elected at such annual meeting, each for a three-year term expiring in 2005:

Willard R. Holland
Dr. Peggy Miller
John B. Yasinsky

Continuing Class II Directors serving until the 2003 annual meeting of stockholders:

James S. Marlen
Rene C. Rombouts
Robert A. Stefanko

Continuing Class III Directors serving until the 2004 annual meeting of stockholders:

Terry L. Haines
Dr. Paul Craig Roberts
James A. Karman
Joseph M. Gingo

- (c) The following matters were voted on at the annual meeting of stockholders:

- (1) Election of Class I Directors:

Director Name	Votes For	Abstentions
Willard R. Holland	22,669,345	2,666,078
Dr. Peggy Miller	21,973,687	3,361,736
John B. Yasinsky	23,159,728	2,175,695

(2) Adoption of the A. Schulman, Inc. 2002 Equity Incentive Plan:

Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions	Broker Non-Votes
13,882,628	5,664,143	2,419,445	3,369,207

(3) Ratification of the selection of independent accountants for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2003:

Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions	Broker Non-Votes
24,392,848	933,836	8,739	0

(4) Stockholder proposal to cause the Company to hire a proxy advisory firm:

Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions	Broker Non-Votes
638,544	21,221,778	105,896	3,369,205

Item 6 — Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

- (a) Exhibits None
- (b) Reports on Form 8-K

No Reports on Form 8-K have been filed during the quarter for which this Report is filed.

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 thereunto duly authorized.

Date: January 14, 2003

A. Schulman, Inc.
(Registrant)

/s/ R.A. STEFANKO
R. A. Stefanko, Executive Vice
President—Finance & Administration
(Signing on behalf of Registrant as a
duly authorized officer of Registrant
and signing as the Principal Financial
Officer of Registrant)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER CERTIFICATION

I, Terry L. Haines, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of A. Schulman, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this quarterly report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this quarterly report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this quarterly report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this quarterly report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14) for the registrant and have:
 - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this quarterly report is being prepared;
 - b) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this quarterly report (the "Evaluation Date"); and
 - c) Presented in this quarterly report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures based on our evaluation as of the Evaluation Date;
5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a) All significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls which could adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data and have identified for the registrant's auditors any material weaknesses in internal controls; and
 - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls; and
6. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have indicated in this quarterly report whether there were significant changes in internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls subsequent to the date of our most recent evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

Date: January 14, 2003

/s/ Terry L. Haines

Terry L. Haines
President and Chief Executive
Officer

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER CERTIFICATION

I, Robert A. Stefanko, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of A. Schulman, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this quarterly report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this quarterly report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this quarterly report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this quarterly report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14) for the registrant and have:
 - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this quarterly report is being prepared;
 - b) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this quarterly report (the "Evaluation Date"); and
 - c) Presented in this quarterly report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures based on our evaluation as of the Evaluation Date;
5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a) All significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls which could adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data and have identified for the registrant's auditors any material weaknesses in internal controls; and
 - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls; and
6. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have indicated in this quarterly report whether there were significant changes in internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls subsequent to the date of our most recent evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

Date: January 14, 2003

/s/ R. A. Stefanko

Robert A. Stefanko
Executive Vice President —
Finance and Administration and
Chief Financial Officer