SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

x	QUARTERLY	Z R	EPOF	RT P	JRSU	TNA	TO	SECTIO	N	13	OR	15(0	d) 01	TH	Ε	SECURI	TIES
	EXCHANGE	ACT	OF	1934	FOR	THE	QUAI	RTERLY	PEF	RIOD	EN	IDED	JUNE	30,	1	998.	
	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

0-18592

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Utah 87-0447695

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

(I.R.S. Identification No.)

(801) 253-1600

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Sections 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

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the Registrant's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Common Stock 7,445,968

TITLE OR CLASS

Number of Shares Outstanding at
August 12, 1998

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

INDEX TO FORM 10-Q

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

PAGE

Ttem 1. Financial Statements Consolidated Balance Sheets as of June 30, 1998 Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three and six months ended June 30, 1998 and 1997......3 Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the six months ended June 30, 1998 and 1997.....4 Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements......6 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition Item 2. and Results of Operations......7 PART II. OTHER INFORMATION Item 5. Other Information. If a shareholder desiring to raise a proposal at the next annual meeting of shareholders does not seek inclusion of the proposal in the Company's proxy statement and fails to notify the Company at least 45 days prior to the month and day of mailing of the prior year's proxy statement, management proxies will be allowed to use their discretionary voting authority when the proposal is raised at the annual meeting, without any discussion of the proposal in the proxy statement. Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K.....9

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1: Financial Statements

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

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CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
JUNE 30, 1998 AND DECEMBER 31, 1997

ASSETS		December 31, 1997			
	(Unaudited)				
CURRENT ASSETS:					
Cash	\$	737,728	\$	976,692	
Trade receivables - net		9,710,611	9,	599,443	
Employee and related					
party receivables		483,485		288,812	
Irish Development Agency grant receivable		175,588		747,888	
Inventories		15,494,397	14,	535,440	
Prepaid expenses other assets		703,297		538,259	
Deferred income tax assets		631,189		782,435	
Total current assets	_	27,936,295	27,	468,969	
	_				

12,652,460 112,486 5,076,290 4,757,350	1,101,544 932,448 10,909,529 112,633 4,817,738 4,483,071 2,747,414
26,314,831 (10,784,082)	
15,530,749	15,455,631
61,142	2,024,050 46,612 167,273 107,143
2,479,943	2,345,078
\$ 45,946,987	\$ 45,269,678
	12,652,460 112,486 5,076,290 4,757,350 2,650,260 26,314,831 (10,784,082) 15,530,749 2,196,247 61,142 158,268 64,286 2,479,943

Continued on Page 2 See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Continued) JUNE 30, 1998 AND DECEMBER 31, 1997

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LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	June 30, 1998	December 31, 1997
	(Unaudited)	
CURRENT LIABILITIES: Line of credit Current portion of long-term debt Trade payables Accrued expenses Advances from employees Income taxes payable	\$ 5,236,337 1,701,296 2,992,174 2,928,013 84,696 233,776	1,802,932
Total current liabilities		12,730,998
DEFERRED INCOME TAX LIABILITIES	875,134	883,002
LONG-TERM DEBT	3,163,959	3,913,686
DEFERRED CREDITS	1,302,091	1,543,151
Total Liabilities	18,517,476	19,070,837
MINORITY INTEREST IN SUBSIDIARY	470,313	396,692
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY: Preferred stock- 5,000,000 shares authorized as of June 30, 1998 and December 31, 1997, respectively, no shares issued Common stock- no par value; 20,000,000 and 10,000,000 shares authorized, respectively; 7,427,542 and 7,395,091 shares issued at June 30, 1998 and December 31, 1997, respectively Foreign currency translation adjustment Retained earnings	(579 , 420)	17,178,971 (490,591) 9,113,769

Total stockholders' equity

TOTAL

26,959,198 \$ 45,946,987 \$ 45,269,678

25,802,149

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEM, INC.

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2

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS FOR THE THREE AND SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1998 and 1997 (Unaudited)

	Jui	nths Ended ne 30,	Six Month: June	30,
	1998	1997	1998	1997
SALES	\$ 17,974,170	\$15,326,070	\$ 34,440,185	\$ 29,159,213
COST OF SALES	11,161,429	9,423,324	21,464,283	7,875,177
GROSS PROFIT	6,812,741	5,902,746	12,975,902	
OPERATING EXPENSES: Selling, general and administrative Research and development	4,571,952 858,561	3,928,977 1,165,286	1,746,754	2,075,339
TOTAL	5,430,513	5,094,263	10,485,671	9,843,754
INCOME FROM OPERATIONS	1,382,228	808,483	2,490,231	1,440,282
OTHER EXPENSE	198,316	230,772	394,976	
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE	1,183,912	577,711	2,095,255	1,029,977
INCOME TAX EXPENSE	548,306	296,470	1,007,421	545,556
MINORITY INTEREST IN (INCOME) LOSS OF SUBSIDIARY	(49,048)	2,719	(73,621)	(8,394)
NET INCOME	\$ 586,558		\$ 1,014,213	
EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE - Basic and diluted	\$ 0.08		\$ 0.14 \$	
AVERAGE COMMON SHARES - Basic and diluted		7,334,727	7,489,150	

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

3

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1998 AND 1997 (Unaudited)

	1998	June 30, 1997
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: Net income	\$1,014,213	\$ 476,027
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used in) in operating activities: Depreciation and amortization Bad debt expense Losses/(Gains) on sales and abandonment of property and equipment Amortization of deferred credits Deferred income taxes Minority interest in income of subsidiary Changes in operating assets and liabilities net of effects from purchase of UMI: Trade receivables Employee and related party receivables Irish Development Agency grant receivable Inventories Prepaid expenses and other assets Deposits Trade payables	18,128 (45,602) 143,378 73,621 (275,908) (158,216)	1,242,618 61,130 (3,477) (20,972) 12,368 8,394 (1,130,098) 36,322 (164,437) 116,521 (279,779) (71,340) (406,597) (220,470)
Accrued expenses Advances from employees Income taxes payable	513,963 3,451 (135,919)	(220,470) (30,460) 409,936
Total adjustments	466,638	(440,341)
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,480,851	35,686
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: Capital expenditures for: Property and equipment Cash payments in connection with assets purchased from UMI Intangible assets Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	(268,709) 521,805	(1,044,906) (59,736) (112,854) 18,588
Net cash used in investing activities	(1,555,639)	(1,198,908)

Continued on page 5
See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Continued)

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FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1998 AND 1997 (Unaudited)

	June 30, 1998	June 30, 1997
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Borrowings under line of credit Proceeds from issuance of common stock Principal payments on:	611,610 231,664	272,771 1,118,754
Long-term debt	(883,887)	(659,821)

Deferred credits	 (34,734)		(17,367)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	 (75,347)		714,337
NET DECREASE IN CASH	(150,135)		(448,885)
EFFECT OF EXCHANGE RATES ON CASH	(88,829)		(277,401)
CASH AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	 976,692	1	1,262,950
CASH AT END OF PERIOD	737 , 728		536 , 664
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION: Cash paid during the period for interest (including capitalized interest of \$68,727 and \$63,338, respectively)	\$ 381,248	\$	
Income taxes	\$ 999 , 962		123,252

SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF NONCASH INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES:

During the six months ended June 30, 1998 and 1997, the Company issued notes payable totaling \$355,404 and \$278,216, respectively, for manufacturing equipment and furniture and fixtures.

During the six months ended June 30, 1997, the Company acquired substantially all of the operating assets of Universal Medical Instrument Corporation for 152,424 shares of Merit restricted common stock. In connection with this acquisition, the Company recorded the following as of the acquisition date:

Assets Acquired	\$ 863,198
Cost in excess of fair market value	182,288
Total purchase price	\$1,045,486

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- _ _______
- 1. Basis of Presentation. In the opinion of management, the accompanying consolidated financial statements contain all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring accruals, necessary for a fair presentation of financial position of the Company as of June 30, 1998 and December 31, 1997, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the three and six months ended June 30, 1998 and 1997. The results of operations for the three and six months ended June 30, 1998 and 1997 are not necessarily indicative of the results for a full year period.
- 2. Inventories. Inventories at June 30, 1998 and December 31, 1997 consisted of the following:

	June 30, 1998	December 31, 1997
Raw materials	\$ 5,401,150	\$ 4,635,593
Work-in-process	4,835,699	4,305,202
Finished goods	6,005,383	6,261,203
Less reserve for obsolete inventory	(747,835)	666,558)
Total	\$15,494,397	\$14,535,440

- 3. Income Taxes. The Company has not fully allocated income tax expense between current and deferred for the quarters ended June 30, 1998 and 1997. The effective tax rate for the three and six months ended June 30, 1998 and 1997 is higher than the federal statutory tax rate largely due to losses incurred by the Company's Irish subsidiary for which a tax benefit was recorded at a rate of 10% vs. a 35% federal statutory tax rate.
- 4. Reporting Comprehensive Income In June 1997, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued SFAS No.130, "Reporting Comprehensive Income." SFAS No. 130 establishes standards for reporting and display of comprehensive income and its components (revenues, expenses, gains and losses) in a full set of general-purpose financial statements. This statement requires that an enterprise (a) classify items of other comprehensive income by their nature in a financial statement and (b) display the accumulated balance of other comprehensive income separately from retained earnings and additional paid-in-capital in the equity section of a statement of financial position.

Effective January 1, 1998, the Company adopted the provisions of SFAS No. 130. Accordingly, the Company determined that the only transaction considered to be an additional component of comprehensive income is the cumulative effect of foreign currency translation adjustments. As of June 30, 1998 and December 31, 1997, the cumulative effect of such transactions reduced stockholders' equity by approximately \$579,420 and \$490,591, respectively. The net impact to operations for the three months ended June 30, 1998 and 1997 would increase/(reduce) comprehensive income by approximately \$99,517 and (\$121,801), respectively. The net impact to operations for the six months ended June 30, 1998 and 1997 would reduce comprehensive income by approximately \$88,829 and \$277,401, respectively.

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

ITEM 2:

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

_ ______

Operations. The Company achieved significant increases in sales and income for the three and six months ended June 30, 1998 compared to the same periods in 1997. The following table sets forth certain operational data as a percentage of sales for the three and six months ended June 30, 1998 and 1997:

		nths Ended	Six Months Ended June 30,		
	1998	1997 	1998	1997 	
Sales Gross Profit	100.0 % 37.9	100.0% 38.5	100.0% 37.7	100.0% 38.7	

Selling, general and administrative	25.4	25.6	25.4	26.6
Research and development	4.8	7.6	5.1	7.1
Income from Operations	7.7	5.3	7.2	4.9
Other Expense	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.4
Net Income	3.3	1.9	2.9	1.6

Sales. Sales for the second quarter of 1998 ended June 30 were \$17,974,170 compared to \$15,326,070 for the same period last year, which represents an increase of 17 percent. The Company's custom kit business grew by 24 percent during the most recent three-month period compared to the quarter ended June 30, 1997, while sales of other devices, including syringes, manifolds and needles, grew by 14 percent. Growth in all segments reflects continued market share gains and acceptance of the Company's products, as well as procedural growth. Sentir, the Company's sensor subsidiary, had gains in revenue of \$278,465 for the quarter ended June 30, 1998 compared to the same quarter of 1997, an increase of 427%. International sales were up 18 percent for the three months ended June 30, 1998 over the prior year's period and accounted for 23 percent of the Company's total revenue mix. For the six-month period ended June 30, 1998 total sales were \$34,440,185 compared with \$29,159,213 for the same period in 1997, an increase of 18 percent. In addition, OEM sales for the six months ended June 30, 1998 increased 90% or \$544,542, over the same period a year ago.

Gross Margin. Gross margin as a percentage of sales for the second quarter of 1998 was 37.9% compared to 38.5% for the same period in 1997. For the six months ended June 30, 1998 gross margin was 37.7% as compared to 38.7% for the same period in 1997. The decrease in gross margin for the three and six months ended June 30, 1998 was primarily due to price competition affecting several products, especially in European markets, and a strong U.S. dollar affecting the translation of its direct European sales into U.S. dollars. Although gross margins were down for three and six months ended June 30, 1998, from a year to year comparison, the gross margin of 37.9% for the most recent quarter is the fourth consecutive quarter of gross margin improvement in this area.

7

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

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Operating Expenses. Operating expenses were 30.2% of sales for the three months ended June 30, 1998 compared to 33.2% for the second quarter of 1997. For the first six months of 1998 operating expenses decreased to 30.4% as compared to 33.8% for the same period in 1997. Selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of sales declined to 25.4% for the three and six months ended June 30, 1998 compared to 25.6% and 26.6% for the same periods in 1997. The improvement was primarily due to economies of scale associated with increasing sales volumes. Research and development costs have also declined to 4.8% of sales for the second quarter of 1998 compared to 7.6% for the same period in 1997. For the six months ended June 30, 1998 research and development decreased to 5.1% of sales down from 7.1% of sales for the first half of 1997. The decrease in R&D expenditures is primarily due to the completion of the Tomcat guide wire project and conversion of resources from R&D to production of the quide wire in Ireland.

Operating Income. During the quarter ended June 30, 1998, the Company reported income from operations of \$1.4 million compared to \$808,483 for the comparable period in 1997. Operating income for the first six months of 1998 was \$2.5 million compared to \$1.4 million for the same period in 1997. The increase in earnings for the three and six months ended June 30, 1998 was attributable to higher sales, lower research and development expenses, slower growth in SG&A expenses, and a lower effective tax rate.

Liquidity and Capital Resources. At June 30, 1998, the Company's working capital was \$14.8 million which represented a current ratio of 2.1 to 1. During 1997, the Company increased an available secured bank line of credit to \$10.5 million. The line of credit bears interest at the bank's prime rate and contains various conditions and restrictions. At June 30, 1998, the outstanding balance under the line of credit was \$5.2 million. Historically, the Company has incurred significant expenses in connection with product development and introduction of new products. Substantial capital has also been required to finance growth in inventories and receivables. The Company's principal source of funding for these and other expenses has been the sale of equity and cash generated from operations, secured loans on equipment and bank lines of credit. The Company believes that its present sources of liquidity and capital are adequate for its current operations. In April 1998, the Company sold its land, building, and improvements in Castlerea, Ireland to a third party. In connection with the sale the Company received approximately \$520,00 in cash for the building improvements and the buyer's assumption of its note payable with the Irish Development Agency for the land and building. This transaction resulted in an immaterial loss to the Company.

Market Risk Disclosures. The Company does not engage in significant derivative financial instruments. The Company does experience risk associated with foreign currency fluctuations, and interest rate risk associated with its variable rate debt; however, such risks have not been material to the Company and, accordingly, the Company has not deemed it necessary to enter into agreements to hedge such risks. The Company may enter into such agreements in the event that such risks become material in the future.

Year 2000. In 1996 the Company began the conversion its principal computer software systems to a new integrated system to support future growth and improve productivity. Management believes that an additional benefit of the conversion will be compliant with Year 2000 requirements without material additional expenditures or a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position, results of operations or liquidity. The Company also has third-party customers, financial institutions, vendors and others with which it conducts business. While the Company believes that these third-party vendors and customers will successfully address Year 2000 issues in a timely manner, it is possible that a series of failures by third parties could have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations in future years.

8

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (Continued)

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Statements contained in this release which are not purely historical are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These encompass Merit's beliefs, expectations, hopes or intentions regarding the future. All forward-looking statements included in this release are made as of the date hereof and are based on information available to Merit as of such date. Merit assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement. It is important to note that actual outcomes and Merit's actual results could differ materially from those in such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially include risks and uncertainties related to future market growth such as product acceptance, product recalls, competition and the overall regulatory environment.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

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

The Company held its Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the "Annual Meeting") on May 27, 1998 in South Jordan, Utah. The following items of business were considered at the Annual Meeting:

A: Election of Directors

Two persons were elected as members of the Board of Directors to serve a three year term. They are as follows:

	Shares	
	Voted For	
James Ellis	6,101,436	
Michael Stillabower	6,101,436	

B. Selection of Auditors.

A proposal to ratify the appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the independent auditor of the Company for 1998 was presented at the Annual Meeting and such proposal was approved by the shareholders of the Company. The number of shares voted for the proposal was 6,094,611. The number of shares voted against such proposal was 3,862. The number of shares abstaining from voting was 12,907.

9

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

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PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 6: Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

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

S - K No. Description Exhibit No. 27 Financial Data Schedule 2

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.

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

REGISTRANT

Date: AUGUST 12, 1998 -----

----- FRED P. LAMPROPOULOS

PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Date: AUGUST 12, 1998

KENT W. STANGER

VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

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5