

**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**

**August 2, 2004**

(Date of earliest event reported)

**MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Utah**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**0-18592**  
(Commission File No.)

**87-0447695**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**1600 West Merit Parkway**  
**South Jordan, Utah 84095**  
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(801) 253-1600**

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**Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(c) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release issued by Merit Medical Systems, Inc., dated August 2, 2004, entitled "Merit Medical Systems Signs Agreement with Novation."

**Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure****Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.**

On August 2, 2004, Merit Medical Systems, Inc. ("Merit") issued a press release announcing it has signed a supplier agreement with Novation, the supply company of VHA Inc. and the University HealthSystem Consortium. The full text of Merit's press release is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1.

The information in this Current Report on Form 8-K (including the exhibit) is furnished pursuant to Item 9 and shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing made by the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

*Forward-Looking Statements*

Statements in this Current Report on Form 8-K (including the exhibit) that are not purely historical facts, including statements regarding Merit's beliefs, expectations, intentions or strategies for the future, may be "forward-looking statements" under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All forward-looking statements involve a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the plans, intentions and expectations reflected in or suggested by the forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, among others, introduction of products in a timely fashion, market acceptance of new products, cost increases, fluctuations in and obsolescence of inventory, price and product competition, availability of labor and materials, development of new third-party products and techniques that render the Company's products obsolete, delays in obtaining regulatory approvals, potential product recalls, foreign currency fluctuations, changes in health care markets related to health care reform initiatives and litigation. Risk factors, cautionary statements and other conditions which could cause Merit's actual results to differ from management's current expectations are contained in Merit's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including Merit's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003. Merit undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances that may arise after the date of this filing.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this Current Report on Form 8-K to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

By: /s/ KENT W. STANGER

Kent W. Stanger, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer

August 2, 2004

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

**EXHIBIT  
NUMBER**

**DESCRIPTION**

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1600 West Merit Parkway • South Jordan, UT 84095  
Telephone: 801-253-1600 • Fax: 801-253-1688

## PRESS RELEASE

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: August 2, 2004  
Contact: Anne-Marie Wright, Director of Corporate Communications  
Phone: (801) 208-4167 e-mail: [awright@merit.com](mailto:awright@merit.com) Fax: (801) 253-1681

### **MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH NOVATION**

SOUTH JORDAN, UTAH—Merit Medical Systems, Inc. (NASDAQ:NMS:MMSI), a leading manufacturer and marketer of proprietary disposable products used primarily in cardiology and radiology procedures, has signed a supplier agreement with Novation, the supply company of VHA Inc. and the University HealthSystem Consortium. The agreement takes effect August 1, 2004, and runs through July 31, 2007. The agreement covers Merit's line of cardiology products, including diagnostic catheters, diagnostic guide wires, fluid management kits and components, inflation devices, and angioplasty accessories.

"We are pleased to make available to VHA and UHC members, through our agreement with Novation, Merit's innovative line of cardiology products," said Fred P. Lampropoulos, Merit's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. "We are proud to be recognized by Novation and these members as a valued business partner."

The new agreement also extends to health care organizations that purchase supplies through HealthCare Purchasing Partners International™, a company that markets Novation purchasing agreements to non-members of VHA and UHC.

### **ABOUT NOVATION**

Based in Irving, Texas, Novation was established in January 1998 through a combination of the supply programs of VHA and UHC, two national health care alliances. Novation serves the purchasing needs of more than 2,300 members and affiliates of VHA and UHC. Novation managed more than \$22 billion in annual purchases for VHA and UHC members in 2003.

### **ABOUT MERIT**

Founded in 1987, Merit Medical Systems, Inc. is engaged in the development, manufacture and distribution of proprietary disposable medical products used in interventional and diagnostic procedures, particularly in cardiology and radiology. Merit serves client hospitals worldwide with a domestic and international sales force totaling approximately 70 individuals. Merit employs approximately 1,260 people worldwide, with manufacturing facilities in Salt Lake City and South Jordan, Utah; Santa Clara, California; Angleton, Texas; and Galway, Ireland. For more information about Merit, visit [www.merit.com](http://www.merit.com).

Statements contained in this release which are not purely historical are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Act of 1995 and are subject to risks and uncertainties such as those described in Merit's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003. Such risks and uncertainties include, among others, introduction of products in a timely fashion, market acceptance of new products, cost increases, fluctuations in and obsolescence of inventory, price and product competition, availability of labor and materials, development of new third-party products and techniques that render the Company's products obsolete, delays in obtaining

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regulatory approvals, potential product recalls, foreign currency fluctuations, changes in health care markets related to health care reform initiatives, litigation and other factors referred to in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K and other reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. All forward-looking statements attributable to the Company or persons acting on its behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by these cautionary statements. Actual results will vary, and may vary materially, from anticipated results. Financial estimates are subject to change and are not intended to be relied upon as predictions of future operating results, and Merit assumes no obligation to update or disclose revisions to those estimates.

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QuickLinks

[MERIT MEDICAL SYSTEMS SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH NOVATION](#)