
**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): March 27, 2008

ACUITY BRANDS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
Company or organization)

001-16583
(Commission File Number)

58-2632672
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

1170 Peachtree St., N.E., Suite 2400, Atlanta, GA
(Address of principal executive offices)

30309
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 404-853-1400

Not Applicable
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

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))
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Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

(d) Election of Directors

On March 27, 2008, the Board of Directors increased the size of the Board of Directors from seven to eight and appointed George C. (Jack) Guynn to the Board of Directors, both effective March 27, 2008. Mr. Guynn was appointed to the class of directors whose term expires at the annual meeting for fiscal year 2009. Mr. Guynn served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta from 1996 until his retirement in October 2006. Mr. Guynn was appointed to the Governance Committee and Audit Committee, effective March 27, 2008. He will participate in the standard non-employee director compensation arrangements described in the Company's 2007 proxy statement.

Item 8.01. Other Events.

On March 27, 2008, the Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of 13 cents per share. A copy of the press release announcing this action was issued on March 27, 2008 and is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release dated March 27, 2008 (Filed with the Commission as part of this Form 8-K).

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: March 28, 2008

ACUITY BRANDS, INC.

By: /s/ Richard K. Reece

Richard K. Reece
Executive Vice President and Chief
Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

99.1 Press Release dated March 27, 2008 (Filed with the Commission as part of this Form 8-K).

News Release



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**ACUITY BRANDS ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD MEMBER
AND DECLARES QUARTERLY DIVIDEND**

ATLANTA, March 27, 2008 – Acuity Brands, Inc. (NYSE: AYI) announced today the election of George C. (Jack) Guynn to the Company’s Board of Directors, effective immediately, in the class whose term expires at the annual meeting for fiscal year 2009. Mr. Guynn was the President and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta from 1996 through 2006. He worked his entire career at the Federal Reserve serving in many leadership roles. This addition to the Acuity Brands Board brings the total number of Directors to eight.

Vernon J. Nagel, Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Acuity Brands, said, “Jack brings a wealth of experience as well as tremendous insight into the economic factors that influence the various markets that we serve. We are pleased that he has agreed to serve as a Director of Acuity Brands and look forward to Jack’s participation and contribution.”

The Board of Directors of Acuity Brands today declared a quarterly dividend of 13 cents per share (an annualized rate of 52 cents per share). The dividend is payable on May 1, 2008 to shareholders of record on April 17, 2008.

Acuity Brands, Inc. owns and operates Acuity Brands Lighting. With fiscal year 2007 net sales of approximately \$2.0 billion, Acuity Brands Lighting is one of the world’s leading providers of lighting fixtures and related services and includes brands such as Lithonia Lighting®, Holophane®, Peerless®, Mark Architectural Lighting®, Hydrel®, American

Electric Lighting®, Gotham®, Carandini®, SpecLight®, MetalOptics®, Antique Street Lamps™, and Synergy Lighting Controls®. Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, Acuity Brands employs approximately 7,000 associates and has operations throughout North America and in Europe and Asia.