

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 10-Q

Quarterly report under Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange
Act of 1934

For The Quarterly Period Ended June 30, 1996

Commission File Nos. 0-9115 and 0-24494

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
(Exact Name of registrant as specified in its charter)

PENNSYLVANIA
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

25-0644320
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

TWO NORTHSORE CENTER, PITTSBURGH, PA
(Address of principal executive offices)

15212-5851
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (412) 442-8200

NOT APPLICABLE

(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 No

The number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common
stock, as of the latest practicable date:

Class of Common Stock Outstanding at July 31, 1996

Class A - \$1.00 par value 5,856,126 shares
Class B - \$1.00 par value 3,018,372 shares

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (UNAUDITED)

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

	June 30, 1996	September 30, 1995
	-----	-----
<S>	<C>	<C>
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 15,432,791	\$ 39,204,010
Short-term investments	2,952,115	-
Accounts and notes receivable, net	26,513,066	28,515,610
Inventories:		

Materials and finished goods	\$10,405,613	\$ 9,209,411
Labor and overhead in process	762,394	812,178
Supplies	642,901	618,907
Less LIFO reserve	(298,673)	(298,673)
	-----	-----
	11,512,235	10,341,823
Other current assets	956,253	1,174,796
	-----	-----
Total current assets	57,366,460	79,236,239
Investments	34,790,636	-
Property, plant and equipment: Cost	62,376,869	62,429,586
Less accumulated depreciation	(25,503,406)	(24,407,809)
	-----	-----
	36,873,463	38,021,777
Deferred income taxes and other assets	11,547,512	15,588,221
Goodwill	10,529,467	5,360,139
	-----	-----
Total assets	\$151,107,538	\$138,206,376
	=====	=====
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Long-term debt, current maturities	379,618	433,465
Accounts payable	3,719,908	5,181,954
Accrued compensation	7,069,696	7,944,824
Accrued income taxes	1,907,660	1,165,805
Customer prepayments and other current liabilities	8,291,287	8,183,972
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities	21,368,169	22,910,020
Long-term debt	-	270,092
Estimated cemetery and finishing costs	3,044,915	4,991,476
Postretirement benefits	20,458,840	19,727,632
Deferred revenue and other liabilities	1,565,942	3,508,752
Shareholders' equity:		
Common stock: Class A, par value \$1.00	5,989,007	4,009,753
Class B, par value \$1.00	3,094,491	4,840,597
Other shareholders' equity	95,586,174	77,948,054
	-----	-----
	104,669,672	86,798,404
	-----	-----
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$151,107,538	\$138,206,376
	=====	=====

/TABLE

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME (UNAUDITED)

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	June 30,		June 30,	
	1996	1995	1996	1995
	---	---	---	---
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
Sales	\$ 44,304,394	\$ 42,729,909	\$128,281,218	\$124,901,297
Cost of sales	24,580,058	23,588,458	71,001,775	68,490,988
Selling and administrative expenses	12,744,710	12,783,734	37,001,278	37,339,518
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Operating profit	6,979,626	6,357,717	20,278,165	19,070,791
Other income (deductions), net	505,633	356,900	7,325,608	883,313
Interest expense	9,000	23,977	76,696	64,342
	-----	-----	-----	-----

Income before income taxes	7,476,259	6,690,640	27,527,077	19,889,762
Income taxes	2,996,188	2,548,264	11,424,972	7,757,093
Net income	\$ 4,480,071	\$ 4,142,376	\$ 16,102,105	\$ 12,132,669
Earnings per share	\$.50	\$.47	\$ 1.81	\$ 1.37
Dividends per share	\$.07	\$.06	\$.21	\$.18
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding	9,006,898	8,850,350	8,908,370	8,850,350

/TABLE

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED)

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

	Nine Months Ended June 30,	
	1996	1995
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net Income	\$16,102,105	\$12,132,669
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	5,978,008	3,538,786
Deferred taxes	77,417	(542,609)
Net increase in certain working capital items	(1,332,450)	(1,588,540)
Increase in other noncurrent assets	(551,545)	(282,752)
Increase in estimated finishing and cemetery costs	246,900	281,346
Decrease in deferred revenue and expenses and other liabilities	(299,758)	(168,935)
Increase in postretirement benefits	731,208	1,202,731
(Gain) loss on sale of property, plant and equipment	(131,273)	51,049
Loss on sale of investments	38,802	-
Gain on sale of subsidiary	(9,409,058)	-
Equity income of investees	(22,771)	-
Effect of exchange rate changes on operations	10,665	312,707
Net cash provided by operating activities	11,438,250	14,936,452
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment	(3,794,583)	(4,361,903)
Acquisition of subsidiary, net of cash acquired	(3,667,062)	-
Purchases of investments	(42,851,139)	-
Proceeds from disposals of property, plant and equipment	439,802	50,758
Proceeds from sale or maturity of investments	5,202,739	-
Proceeds from sale of subsidiary	13,070,853	-
Collections on loans to officers and employees	1,216,854	1,278,382
Net cash used in investing activities	(30,382,536)	(3,032,763)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Payments on long-term debt	(323,939)	(314,639)
Proceeds from the sale of treasury stock	107,969	-
Purchases of treasury stock	(2,838,201)	-
Dividends paid	(1,878,935)	(1,592,609)
Net cash used in financing activities	(4,933,106)	(1,907,248)

Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	106,173	(30,354)
	-----	-----
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ (23,771,219)</u>	<u>\$ 9,966,087</u>
Supplemental Cash Flow Information:		
Cash paid during the period for:		
Interest	\$ 76,696	\$ 64,342
Income Taxes	9,779,747	8,754,905

/TABLE

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 1996

Note 1. Nature of Operations

Matthews International Corporation, founded in 1850 and incorporated in Pennsylvania in 1902, is a designer, manufacturer and marketer of custom-made products which are used to identify people, places, products and events. The Company's products and operations are comprised of three business segments: Bronze, Graphic Systems and Marking Products. The Bronze segment is a leading manufacturer of cast bronze memorial products used primarily in cemeteries as well as cremation related products. The Graphic Systems segment manufactures and provides custom identification-related products and services used by the corrugated packaging industry and the flexible packaging industry. The Marking Products segment designs, manufactures and distributes a wide range of equipment and consumables used by customers to mark or identify various consumer and industrial products, components and packaging containers. Matthews International Corporation has manufacturing facilities in the United States, Canada, Australia and Sweden as well as sales and distribution facilities in France and Germany.

Note 2. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial information for commercial and industrial companies and the instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the three-month and nine-month periods ended June 30, 1996 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 1995.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Note 3. Income Taxes

The income tax provision for the period is based on the effective tax rate expected to be applicable for the full year. The difference between the estimated effective tax rate of 41.5% and the Federal statutory rate of 35% primarily reflects the impact of state and foreign income taxes.

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, continued
JUNE 30, 1996

Note 4. Investments

On February 19, 1996, the Company acquired for \$1,596,688 cash 40% of the common stock of Applied Technology Developments, Ltd. (ATD), a British manufacturer of impulse ink-jet printing equipment. On May 6, 1996, the Company acquired an additional 9% interest in ATD in exchange for 19,286 shares of Class A common stock (valued at \$527,975). The investment has been recorded under the equity method of accounting. The Company's investment in ATD at June 30, 1996 was \$2,166,706.

All other investment securities are classified as available-for-sale and are recorded at market value at the consolidated balance sheet date. Short-term investments consist of securities with purchased maturities of over three months but less than one year. Accrued interest on all investment securities, including purchased interest, is also classified with short-term investments. Investments classified as non-current consist of securities with purchased maturities intended to range from one to five years.

Unrealized gains and losses on investment securities are included as a separate component of shareholders' equity. Realized gains and losses are based on the specific identification method and are recorded in other income. Bond premiums and discounts are amortized on the straight-line method which does not significantly differ from the interest method.

The amortized cost and market values of investment securities at June 30, 1996 were as follows:

	Book Value (Amortized Cost)	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Market Value
Short-term investments:				
U.S. government and its agencies	\$ 1,499,896	\$ -	\$ 196	\$ 1,499,700
Corporate obligations	1,100,000	-	-	1,100,000
Other	352,415	-	-	352,415
Total	\$ 2,952,311	\$ -	\$ 196	\$ 2,952,115
Investments:				
U.S. government and its agencies	\$14,503,141	\$ -	\$417,647	\$14,085,494
Corporate obligations	18,444,961	-	348,311	18,096,650
Other	441,786	-	-	441,786
Total	\$33,389,888	\$ -	\$765,958	\$32,623,930

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, continued
JUNE 30, 1996

Note 5. Acquisitions

On March 25, 1996, Matthews International Corporation acquired Industrial Equipment and Engineering Company, Inc., a Florida corporation ("IEECF"), for 213,862 shares of Matthews Class A common stock (valued at \$5.4 million) and \$3.6 million cash. The acquisition was consummated through a statutory merger among IEECF, a real estate holding corporation related to IEECF, and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Matthews International Corporation. The wholly-owned subsidiary of Matthews International Corporation, Industrial Equipment and Engineering Company, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("IEECD"), was the surviving corporation from the merger. In addition, IEECD executed employment agreements with the two former shareholders of IEECF pursuant to which performance-based incentive compensation would be payable to such shareholders if the cumulative pre-tax earnings of the merged business for the five-year period beginning April 1, 1996 exceeds \$8.0 million, which amount is significantly greater than the profit levels earned by IEECF in recent years. Matthews International Corporation has accounted for this acquisition using the purchase method and,

accordingly, has recorded the acquired assets and liabilities at their estimated fair values at the date of acquisition. The excess of the purchase price over the fair value of the net assets was recorded as goodwill to be amortized on a straight-line basis over 20 years.

On August 1, 1996, IEECD acquired for cash substantially all of the assets and certain of the liabilities of ALL Crematory Corporation. The total purchase price, including the assumption of liabilities, was \$2.3 million. The transaction will be recorded in the Company's fourth quarter.

Note 6. Disposition

On January 5, 1996, Matthews International Corporation sold for \$13.1 million cash its cemetery and mortuary facility (Sunland Memorial Park, Inc.) in Sun City, Arizona to Service Corporation International. Matthews recorded a pre-tax gain of \$9.4 million on the sale which was recorded in other income. Sunland Memorial Park, Inc., which was purchased in 1982, was the only such facility owned by the Company. The facility had sales in fiscal year 1995 of approximately \$5 million, representing about 3 percent of the consolidated sales of the Company.

Note 7. Supplemental Cash Flow Information

On March 25, 1996, the Company issued 213,862 shares of authorized Class A common stock, valued at \$5.4 million, in connection with the acquisition of IEECF (See Note 5). On May 6, 1996, the Company issued 19,286 shares of authorized Class A common stock, valued at \$527,975, in connection with the purchase of an additional 9% interest in ATD (See Note 4).

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

Results of Operations

The following table sets forth certain income statement data of the Company expressed as a percentage of net sales for the periods indicated.

	Nine months ended		Years ended		
	June 30,	September 30,	1995	1994	1993
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	1996	1995	1995	1994	1993
	----	----	----	----	----
Sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Gross profit	44.7	45.2	44.8	45.1	42.4
Operating profit	15.8	15.3	14.7	15.1	11.6
Income before income taxes		21.5	15.9	15.0	14.9
Net income		12.6	9.7	9.3	8.8
					6.6(1)

(1) Excludes the cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles for the adoptions of SFAS No. 106 and SFAS No. 109.

Sales for the nine months ended June 30, 1996 were \$128.3 million and were \$3.4 million, or 2.7%, higher than sales of \$124.9 million for the first nine months of fiscal 1995. The increase for the first nine months of fiscal 1996 reflected higher sales in all three of the Company's business segments. Bronze segment sales for the period were up 4% over fiscal 1995 despite the sale of Sunland Memorial Park, Inc. in January 1996 (see "Liquidity and Capital Resources") reflecting increases in both price and unit volume. In addition, the segment's revenues for the fiscal 1996 third quarter were up 6% over the third quarter of fiscal 1995 and included sales by Industrial Equipment and Engineering Company, Inc. which was acquired on March 25, 1996 (see "Liquidity and Capital Resources"). Marking Products segment sales for the first nine months of fiscal 1996 were up 2% over the same period a year ago reflecting higher demand in Europe and Australia. The segment's international sales increased 9% over the same period a year ago which more than offset a decline in North American sales volume. Graphic Systems sales for the first nine

months of fiscal 1996 were slightly higher than the first nine months of fiscal 1995. Sales for this segment have been adversely impacted, beginning in the third quarter of fiscal 1995, from the postponement by many customers of printing plates purchases in an attempt to offset increased costs for linerboard.

Gross profit for the nine months ended June 30, 1996 was \$57.3 million, or 44.7% of sales, compared to \$56.4 million, or 45.2% of sales, for the first nine months of fiscal 1995. The increase in gross profit of \$869,000, or 1.5%, was attributable principally to improvements in the Bronze and Graphic Systems segments. Bronze segment gross profit increased as a result of increased sales as its gross margin percentage remained relatively consistent with the prior period. Graphic Systems gross margin as a percent of sales improved from the prior year reflecting overhead cost reduction efforts. Marking Products gross profit for the first nine months of fiscal 1996 was slightly lower than the first nine months of fiscal 1995 reflecting lower year-to-date sales and gross margin percentages in North America. International gross profit of the Marking Selling and administrative expenses for the nine months ended June 30, 1996 were \$37.0 million, representing a decrease of \$338,000, less than one percent, from \$37.3 million for the first nine months of fiscal 1995. The reduction in selling and administrative costs for the first nine months of fiscal 1996 reflected the absence of Sunland Memorial Park, Inc. (Sunland), which was sold in January 1996, and the discontinuance of the Company's Italian operations effective November 1, 1995. In addition, North American selling costs of the Marking Products segment declined for the period on lower sales volume. Selling and administrative costs of Industrial Equipment and Engineering Company, Inc. partially offset these declines.

Operating profit for the nine months ended June 30, 1996 was \$20.3 million and was \$1.2 million, or 6.3%, higher than operating profit of \$19.1 million for the first nine months of fiscal 1995. The higher consolidated operating profit for the first nine months of fiscal 1996 resulted from operating profit increases in all three of the Company's business segments. The Bronze segment recorded the largest increase, due principally to higher sales and related gross profit. Higher operating profit for the Graphic Systems segment also resulted from improved sales and operating margins. Operating profit improvement for the Marking Products segment reflected the increase in international sales combined with lower North American selling expenses.

Interest expense for the nine months ended June 30, 1996 was \$77,000, compared to \$64,000 for the first nine months of fiscal 1995. Interest expense principally relates to the Company's capital lease obligations.

Other income (deductions), net for the nine months ended June 30, 1996 was \$7.3 million compared to \$883,000 for the first nine months of fiscal 1995. Other income for the first nine months of fiscal 1996 reflected a \$9.4 million pre-tax gain on the sale of Sunland. This gain was partially offset by the write-off of the remaining goodwill (\$2.3 million) with respect to the Company's investment in its Swedish subsidiary, which manufactures drop-on-demand ink-jet printing equipment, and a charge for certain other non-operating expenses during the period. Investment income for the first nine months of fiscal 1996 was \$1.8 million compared to \$1.0 million for the same period a year ago reflecting the Company's higher cash and investment position during the current year.

The Company's effective tax rate for the nine months ended June 30, 1996 was 41.5%, compared to 38.4% for the year ended September 30, 1995. The higher effective tax rate for fiscal 1996 is primarily the result of an increase in the estimated impact of foreign income taxes, mainly in Sweden and Germany, on the Company's consolidated tax position. The difference between the Company's effective tax rate and the Federal statutory rate of 35% primarily reflects the impact of state and foreign income taxes.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$11.4 million for the nine months ended June 30, 1996, compared to \$14.9 million for the first nine months of fiscal 1995. Operating cash flow for the first nine months of fiscal 1996 reflected the Company's net income for the period of \$16.1 million adjusted to exclude the gain on the sale of Sunland and non-cash depreciation and amortization (including the write-off of goodwill related to the Company's

Swedish subsidiary). Cash flow from operations for the first nine months of fiscal 1995 principally reflected the Company's net income for the period. Cash used in investing activities was \$30.4 million for the nine months ended June 30, 1996 compared to \$3.0 million for the same period a year ago. Investing activities for the first nine months of fiscal 1996 included net investments of \$36.0 million in short-term and intermediate-term securities of the U.S. government and its agencies and corporate obligations. These investments are designed to improve the investment rate of return on the Company's excess cash position while maintaining a sufficient degree of liquidity for future cash needs. Investing activities also included the acquisition (for \$1.6 million cash and 19,286 shares of Matthews International Corporation Class A common stock) of 49% of the common stock of Applied Technology Developments, Ltd., a British manufacturer of impulse ink-jet printing equipment.

Capital expenditures for the nine months ended June 30, 1996 amounted to \$3.8 million, compared to capital expenditures of \$4.4 million for the first nine months of fiscal 1995. Capital spending for property, plant and equipment has averaged approximately \$4.9 million for the last three fiscal years. The capital budget of the Company for fiscal 1996 is \$12.7 million. The Company expects to generate sufficient cash from operations to fund all anticipated capital spending projects.

On January 5, 1996, the Company sold for \$13.1 million cash its cemetery and mortuary facility (Sunland Memorial Park, Inc.) in Sun City, Arizona to Service Corporation International. The transaction resulted in a pre-tax gain of \$9.4 million. Sunland Memorial Park, Inc., which was purchased in 1982, was the only such facility owned by Matthews International Corporation. The facility had sales in fiscal year 1995 of approximately \$5 million, representing about 3 percent the consolidated sales of the Company. The proceeds from this transaction will provide additional resources to fund internal and acquisition growth in the Company's related businesses.

On March 25, 1996, the Company acquired Industrial Equipment and Engineering Company, Inc., a Florida corporation ("IEECF"), for 213,862 newly-issued shares of authorized Matthews Class A common stock (valued at \$5.4 million) and \$3.6 million cash. The acquisition was consummated through a statutory merger among IEECF, a real estate holding corporation related to IEECF, and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Matthews International Corporation. The wholly-owned subsidiary of Matthews International Corporation, Industrial Equipment and Engineering Company, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("IEECD"), was the surviving corporation from the merger. IEECF, headquartered in Orlando, Florida, is the leading North American manufacturer of cremation equipment and also a supplier of related cremation products. IEECF sales were approximately \$7.5 million for the year ended December 31, 1995 and consisted of about 70% in cremation equipment, 15% in field repairs, and the remainder in cremation supply products. The merger with IEECF is expected to provide Matthews International Corporation with the opportunity to further participate in the increasing cremation trend and expand its range of products and services to the death care industry.

On August 1, 1996, IEECD acquired for cash substantially all of the assets and certain of the liabilities of ALL Crematory Corporation. ALL Crematory Corporation, located in Solon, Ohio, is also a manufacturer of cremation equipment. The total purchase price, including the assumption of liabilities, was \$2.3 million. The transaction will be recorded in the Company's fourth quarter.

Cash used in financing activities for the nine months ended June 30, 1996 was \$4.9 million principally reflecting the purchase of treasury stock and the Company's quarterly dividends of \$.07 per share. In May 1996, the Company announced that the Board of Directors approved a limited stock repurchase program authorizing the Company to purchase up to 500,000 shares of Class A and Class B common stock. In conjunction with the buy-back program, the Company also changed its practice regarding sales of Class B common stock by the Company's employees. Effective July 21, 1996, the Company invoked the provisions of Article Fifth of its Restated Articles of Incorporation. Such Article provides (among other things) that any shareholder wishing to sell any Class B common shares must first offer such shares to the Company for redemption. The Company had previously waived its rights to such redemptions. The Company will then have an option to purchase such shares for a 24-hour

period. Repurchased shares may be retained in treasury, utilized for acquisitions, or reissued to employees or other purchasers, subject to the restrictions of the Restated Articles of Incorporation.

Cash used in financing activities in the first nine months of fiscal 1995 was \$1.9 million consisting of dividends and capital lease payments. Dividends for each of the first three quarters of fiscal 1995 were \$.06 per share. The Company currently has available lines of credit of approximately \$11 million. There were no outstanding borrowings on any of the Company's lines of credit at June 30, 1996. As of such date, the Company's outstanding long-term debt, which consisted of capital lease obligations, was approximately \$380,000.

At June 30, 1996 and September 30, 1995 and 1994, the Company's current ratio was 2.7, 3.5 and 2.9, respectively. The Company had cash and cash equivalents at June 30, 1996 and September 30, 1995 of \$15.4 million and \$39.2 million, respectively. Net working capital at June 30, 1996 was \$36.0 million. The reduction in the current ratio and cash and cash equivalents balance from September 30, 1995 reflects investments in securities with longer maturities. The Company believes that its current liquidity sources, combined with its operating cash flow and additional borrowing capacity, will be sufficient to meet its capital needs for the next 12 months.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 2. Changes in Securities

In May 1996, the Company announced that the Board of Directors approved a limited stock repurchase program authorizing the Company to purchase up to 500,000 shares of Class A and Class B common stock. In conjunction with the buy-back program, the Company also changed its practice regarding sales of Class B common stock by the Company's employees. Effective July 21, 1996, the Company invoked the provisions of Article Fifth of its Restated Articles of Incorporation. Such Article provides (among other things) that any shareholder wishing to sell any Class B common shares must first offer such shares to the Company for redemption. The Company had previously waived its rights to such redemptions. The Company will then have an option to purchase such shares for a 24-hour period. Repurchased shares may be retained in treasury, utilized for acquisitions, or reissued to employees or other purchasers, subject to the restrictions of the Restated Articles of Incorporation.

Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

(a) Exhibits

The following Exhibits to this report are filed herewith or incorporated by reference:

Exhibit

No.	Description
10.1	Capital Stock Purchase Agreement, Sunland Memorial Park, Inc., incorporated by reference to Exhibit No. 10.1 to Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1995
10.2	Agreement and Plan of Merger, Industrial Equipment and Engineering Company, Inc., incorporated by reference to Exhibit No. 10.2 to Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 1996
11	Computation of Earnings Per Share, filed herewith
27	Financial Data Schedule, filed herewith

(b) Reports on Form 8-K

None

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.

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
(Registrant)

Date 8/7/96

E.J. Boyle

E.J. Boyle, Vice President,
Accounting & Finance

Date 8/7/96

J.L. Parker

J. L. Parker, Senior Vice President,
General Counsel and Secretary

MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
EXHIBIT 11 - COMPUTATION OF EARNINGS PER SHARE
FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 1996 AND 1995

	1996	1995
	----	----
1. Net income	\$16,102,105	\$12,132,669
2. Weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period	8,908,370	8,850,350
3. Shares issuable upon exercise of dilutive stock options outstanding during period, based on higher of average or period-end values	205,618	-
4. Weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period, assuming full dilution (2 + 3)	9,113,988	8,850,350
5. Primary earnings per share (1 divided by 2)	\$ 1.81	\$ 1.37
6. Fully diluted earnings per share (1 divided by 4)	\$ 1.77	\$ 1.37

<TABLE> <S> <C>

<ARTICLE> 5

<LEGEND>

THIS SCHEDULE CONTAINS SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION EXTRACTED FROM THE REGISTRANT'S QUARTERLY REPORT ON FORM 10-Q FOR THE NINE-MONTH PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 1996 AND IS QUALIFIED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY REFERENCE TO SUCH FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

</LEGEND>

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<INCOME-PRETAX>	27,527,077
<INCOME-TAX>	11,424,972
<INCOME-CONTINUING>	16,102,105
<DISCONTINUED>	0
<EXTRAORDINARY>	0
<CHANGES>	0
<NET-INCOME>	16,102,105
<EPS-PRIMARY>	1.81
<EPS-DILUTED>	1.77

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