# 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) December 9, 2008

# **Hooker Furniture Corporation**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Virginia (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) **000-25349** (Commission File Number) **54-0251350** (IRS Employer Identification No.)

**440 East Commonwealth Boulevard, Martinsville, VA** (Address of principal executive offices)

**24112** (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (276) 632-0459, Ext. 3006

(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))

### Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On December 9, 2008 the Registrant issued a press release, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

### Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1. Press release dated December 9, 2008

## SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**Hooker Furniture Corporation** 

(Registrant)

December 9, 2008

/s/ R. GARY ARMBRISTER

(Date)

R. Gary Armbrister Chief Accounting Officer

## Exhibit Index

99.1 Press release dated December 9, 2008

## Hooker Furniture Reports Lower Sales and Earnings for Fiscal 2009 Third Quarter

MARTINSVILLE, Va., Dec. 9, 2008 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Hooker Furniture Corporation (Nasdaq:HOFT) today reported net sales of \$69.0 million and net income of \$3.0 million, or \$0.27 per share, for the quarter ended November 2, 2008.

Fiscal 2009 third quarter net sales of \$69.0 million decreased \$14.8 million, or 17.6%, compared to the fiscal 2008 third quarter net sales of \$83.8 million. Third quarter 2009 net income of \$3.0 million decreased 50.1%, from net income of \$5.9 million in the same 2008 period. Earnings per share of \$0.27 decreased \$0.21, or 43.8%, when compared to the 2008 quarter earnings per share of \$0.48.

Operating income for the 2009 third quarter decreased to \$4.7 million, or 6.8% of net sales, compared to operating income of \$8.9 million, or 10.6% of net sales, in the same quarter a year ago. However, operating income margin improved compared to the 2009 second quarter and first half, principally as a result of higher net sales versus the 2009 second quarter, along with cost cutting measures taken by the Company and higher restructuring credits recorded during the 2009 third quarter. The 2009 third quarter operating margin of 6.8% improved compared to 4.8% for the 2009 second quarter and 5.2% for the 2009 first half.

"Given the unprecedented economic stress and historically low levels of consumer confidence, we're modestly pleased with our third quarter results," said Paul B. Toms Jr., chairman, chief executive officer and president. "In this environment, we're gratified not only that we've remained profitable, but also to have improved our operating income margin compared to the second quarter and first half. Obviously we're disappointed that we weren't able to stabilize sales and operate at historical profit levels. We believe our business model has proven once again the ability to keep us competitive, well-positioned and profitable despite economic adversity."

The year-over-year decrease in income and profitability was driven primarily by the net sales reduction, along with other factors including:

- -- a decline in gross profit margin to 28.7% compared with 31.8% in the prior year quarter, principally due to the rising cost of imported wood products and higher raw material costs for upholstered products and increased overhead absorption as a percentage of net sales for domestically-produced upholstered furniture; and
- -- an increase in selling and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales to 22.7% compared with 20.7% of sales for the prior year quarter through the effect of declining year-over-year net sales. While selling and administrative expenses increased as a percentage of net sales, actual selling and administrative expenses declined 9.5% to \$15.7 million in the 2009 third quarter compared to \$17.3 million in the same period a year ago.

The declines in year-over-year income were partially mitigated by actions taken by Hooker to improve profitability and reduce costs. During the 2009 fiscal third quarter, the Company continued to address profitability by (i) increasing selling prices on most of its products; (ii) deferring, reducing or eliminating certain spending plans; and, (iii) reducing its work force by approximately 80 employees at its wood and upholstered furniture divisions.

The decline in year-over-year profitability was also partially offset by a restructuring credit of \$561,000 (\$350,000 after tax, or \$0.03 per share) recorded in the 2009 third quarter for previously accrued health care benefits that are not expected to be paid for terminated employees at the former Roanoke and Martinsville, Va. manufacturing facilities. During the same 2008 quarter, the Company recorded restructuring charges of \$419,000 (\$260,000 after tax, or \$0.02 per share) principally for asset impairment and disassembly costs related to the closure of the Martinsville, Va. manufacturing facility.

The net sales decline for the 2009 third quarter was driven by lower unit volume attributed to the nation-wide business slump, lower shipments of discontinued domestically-produced wood furniture and lower average selling prices. Factors driving the lower average selling prices included a higher proportion of lower-priced imported wood furniture in the product mix and sales discounts extended to dealers to promote sales.

Excluding discontinued domestically-produced wood furniture, net sales declined 16.3% year-over-year.

Third quarter 2009 unit volume decreased compared to the same 2008 period across most wood and upholstery product categories, but increased for:

- -- youth bedroom products due to the addition of the Opus Designs product line; and
- -- upholstered seating manufactured by Sam Moore.

Cash and cash equivalents declined by \$20.7 million to \$12.4 million as of November 2, 2008 from \$33.1 million on February 3, 2008. The Company deployed cash of \$14.1 million to repurchase approximately 800,000 shares of its common stock during the 2009 nine-month period under authorizations approved by its Board of Directors since late last year. Repurchases under those authorizations were completed early in the 2009 third quarter. Additionally, a \$5.5 million increase in inventory levels accounts for substantially all of the remaining expenditure of the cash and cash equivalents used during the 2009 nine-month period. "Our progress in working down inventory levels is taking longer than expected because the downturn in sales has been more pronounced than we hoped; however, inventories have declined by \$1.8 million since our last report at the end of July," Toms said. "We have now modified our inventory planning in reaction to this lower demand and will continue to work on managing to lower inventory levels. "

## **Business Outlook**

Over the course of the last several months, the economy has worsened with continued business closings, cutbacks and layoffs across many industries, including the home furnishings industry. Consumer confidence levels are at historical lows. With continued instability in the real estate, financial and credit markets prospects for a near-term economic recovery appear dim.

During the third quarter however, the Company experienced a modest increase in incoming order rates compared to the 2009 second quarter. Toms stated, "This stayed true to the historical upward trend in order rates following the Labor Day holiday. Also, while attendance at the recent October 2008 High Point, N.C. furniture market was significantly lower than at the last several semiannual markets, order writing was generally consistent with recent markets. We were especially gratified at our ability to gain strong retail placements on a comprehensive new product collection at higher than average price points as well as our ability to sell a new bedroom collection in more transitional styling at lower than average price points. The beauty of sourcing in plants around the globe is that we have more flexibility to offer a wide range of styles and price points to a variety of retailers positioned at different price levels and with different consumer bases. Because of our broad factory network and strength in pro duct development, we have the flexibility to be whatever the customer needs."

"Until we start to see the real estate and financial markets stabilize and some improvement in credit availability and consumer confidence, we believe the consumer will continue to stay on the sidelines," said Toms. "We've seen a significant decline in year-over-year incoming order rates over the past two months. We could possibly have to operate in this current environment for another nine to twelve months. That being said, we do see reassuring signs of progress and strength across our Company that keep us optimistic about our business model and long term future," Toms continued.

## Announcements

- -- On November 6, 2008, Bradington-Young announced a permanent layoff of 54 employees in operations and administration at its plants in Cherryville and Hickory, NC. The reduction of approximately 15% of Bradington-Young's workforce was necessary because of the prolonged economic slump in the furniture industry and the impact on sales of its leather upholstered furniture. (In August 2008, the Company also announced permanent layoffs affecting 25 employees in operations, warehousing and administration at its wood furniture division based in Martinsville, Va.)
- -- At today's meeting, the Company's Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.10 per share, payable on February 27, 2008 to shareholders of record February 13, 2008.

## **Conference Call Details**

Hooker Furniture will present its fiscal 2009 second quarter financial results via teleconference and live internet web cast on Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at 9:00 AM Eastern Time. The dial-in number for domestic callers is 877-397-0284, and 719-325-4868 is the number for international callers.

Ranked among the nation's top 10 largest publicly traded furniture sources based on 2007 shipments to U.S. retailers, Hooker Furniture Corporation is an 84-year old residential wood, metal and upholstered furniture resource. Major wood furniture product categories include home entertainment, home office, accent, dining, bedroom and bath furniture under the Hooker Furniture brand and youth bedroom furniture sold under the Opus Designs brand. Hooker's residential upholstered seating companies include Cherryville, N.C.-based Bradington-Young LLC, a specialist in upscale motion and stationary leather furniture, and Bedford, Va.-based Sam Moore Furniture LLC, a specialist in upscale occasional chairs with an emphasis on cover-to-frame customization. Please visit our websites at www.hookerfurniture.com, www.bradington-young.com, www.sammoore.com and www.opusdesigns.com.

The Hooker Furniture Corporation logo is available at http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=4305

Statements made in this release, other than those concerning historical financial information, may be considered forward-looking statements. These statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements, including but not limited to: current economic conditions and instability in the financial and credit markets including their potential impact on the Company's (i) sales and operating costs and access to financing, (ii) customers and

suppliers and their ability to obtain financing or generate the cash necessary to conduct their business; general economic or business conditions, both domestically and internationally; price competition in the furniture industry; changes in domestic and international monetary policies and fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates affecting the price of the Company's imported products; the cyclical nature of the furniture industry which is particularly sensitive to changes in consum er confidence, the amount of consumers' income available for discretionary purchases and the availability and terms of consumer credit; risks associated with the cost of imported goods, including fluctuation in the prices of purchased finished goods and transportation and warehousing costs; supply, transportation and distribution disruptions, particularly those affecting imported products; adverse political acts or developments in, or affecting, the international markets from which the Company imports products, including duties or tariffs imposed on products imported by the Company; risks associated with domestic manufacturing operations, including fluctuations in capacity utilization and the prices of key raw materials, transportation and warehousing costs, domestic labor costs and environmental compliance and remediation costs; the Company's ability to successfully implement its business plan to increase Sam Moore Furniture's and Opus Design's sales and improve their financial performance; achieving and ma naging growth and change, and the risks associated with acquisitions, restructurings, strategic alliances and international operations; risks associated with distribution through retailers, such as non-binding dealership arrangements; capital requirements and costs; competition from non-traditional outlets, such as catalogs, internet and home improvement centers; changes in consumer preferences, including increased demand for lower quality, lower priced furniture due to declines in consumer confidence and/or discretionary income available for furniture purchases and the availability of consumer credit; and higher than expected costs associated with product quality and safety, including regulatory compliance costs related to the sale of consumer products and costs related to defective products. Any forward-looking statement that the Company makes speaks only as of the date of that statement, and the Company undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new informatio n, future events, or otherwise.

#### Table I HOOKER FURNITURE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (In thousands, except per share data)

	Thirteen Weeks End Nov. 02 Oct. 2008 (a) 2007	28, Nov. 02 (b) 2008 (c)	Oct. 28,
Net sales	\$ 68,996 \$ 83,7		\$ 234,503
Cost of sales	49,188 57,2	145,251	
Gross profit	19,808 26,6	536 59,400	71,715
Selling and administrative expenses	15,661 17,3	312 48,440	48,385
Restructuring and asset impairment (credit) charge	(561) 4	19 (819)	763
Operating income	4,708 8,9	905 11,779	22,567
Other income, net	36 3		1,150
Income before income taxes	4,744 9,2		23,717
Income taxes	1,794 3,3	303 4,541	8,662
Net income	\$   2,950  \$   5,9 ===============================		\$ 15,055 =======
Earnings per share: Basic	\$ 0.27 \$ 0	.48 \$ 0.68	\$ 1.19
Diluted	\$ 0.27 \$ 0. ====================================	48 \$ 0.68	
Weighted average shares outstanding: Basic	10,761 12,2 ===================================		12,676
Diluted	10,767 12,2		12,680

- (a) During the 2009 third quarter, the Company recorded a restructuring credit of \$561,000 (\$350,000 after tax, or \$0.03 per share) for previously accrued health care benefits that are not expected to be paid for terminated employees at the former Roanoke and Martinsville, Va. manufacturing facilities.
- (b) During the 2008 third quarter, the Company recorded restructuring charges of \$419,000 (\$260,000 after tax, or \$0.02 per share) principally for additional severance and related benefit costs and disassembly costs related to the closure of the Martinsville, Va. manufacturing facilities.
- (c) During the 2009 thirty-nine week period, the Company recorded a restructuring credit of \$819,000 (\$510,000 after tax, or \$0.05 per share) for previously accrued health care benefits that are not expected to be paid for terminated employees at the former Roanoke and Martinsville, Va. manufacturing facilities.
- (d) During the 2008 thirty-nine week period, the Company recorded aggregate restructuring charges of \$763,000 (\$473,000 after tax, or \$0.04 per share) consisting of: \$893,000 for additional severance and related benefit costs associated with the March 2007 closing of the Martinsville, Va. domestic wood manufacturing facility, and a restructuring credit of \$130,000 principally to reverse previously accrued health care benefits for terminated employees at the former Pleasant Garden, N.C. facility that were not expected to be paid.

#### Table II HOOKER FURNITURE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (In thousands, including share data)

	November 02, 2008	February 03, 2008	
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents Trade accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 12,419	\$ 33,076	
of \$2,134 and \$1,750 on each date Inventories	37,817 56,035		
Prepaid expenses and other	,	,	
current assets	4,641	3,552	
Total current assets	110,912	125,417	
Property, plant and equipment, net	24,859	25,353	
Goodwill	3,803	3,774	
Intangible assets Cash surrender value of life	5,924	5,892	
insurance policies	13,230	12,173	
Other assets	2,124	2,623	
Total assets	\$ 160,852 ======	\$ 175,232	
	========	========	
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity Current liabilities			
Trade accounts payable Accrued salaries, wages and	\$ 10,611	\$ 13,025	
benefits	3,622	3,838	
Other accrued expenses	3,201	3,553	
Current maturities of long-term debt	2,846	2,694	
Total current liabilities Long-term debt, excluding current	20,280	23,110	
maturities	3,064	5,218	
Deferred compensation	6,194	5,369	
Other long-term liabilities	216	709	
Total liabilities	29,754	34,406	
Shareholders' equity Common stock, no par value,			

20,000 shares authorized, 10,761

and 11,561 shares issued and		
outstanding on each date	16,975	18,182
Retained earnings	114,246	122,835
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(123)	(191)
Total shareholders' equity	131,098	140,826
Total liabilities and		
shareholders' equity	\$ 160,852	\$ 175,232
	========	========

#### Table III

## HOOKER FURNITURE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (In thousands)

(in thousands)		Weeks Ended October 28, 2007
Cash flows from operating activities Cash received from customers Cash paid to suppliers and employees Income taxes paid, net Interest received, net	\$ 205,466	\$ 234,868 (192,939) (10,188) 977
Net cash provided by operating activities	743	32,718
Cash flows from investing activities Acquisition of Sam Moore Furniture, net of cash acquired Additional payments related to the acquisition of Opus Designs Purchase of property, plant and equipment Proceeds from the sale of property and equipment	 (181) (1,755) 17	(10,571)  (1,514) 2,129
Net cash used in investing activities	(1,919)	
Cash flows from financing activities Purchases and retirement of common stock Cash dividends paid Payments on long-term debt	(14,097) (3,382) (2,002)	(3,847) (1,860)
Net cash used in financing activities	(19,481)	
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	(20,657) 33,076  \$ 12,419 =======	(9,730) 47,085  \$ 37,355 ========
Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities: Net income Depreciation and amortization Non-cash and restricted stock awards Restructuring (credit) charge Loss on disposal of property Provision for doubtful accounts Deferred income tax (benefit) expense Changes in assets and liabilities, net of effect from acquisitions: Trade accounts receivable Inventories Prepaid expenses and other assets Trade accounts payable Accrued salaries, wages and	$\begin{array}{ccccc} \$ & 7,629 \\ & 2,154 \\ & 54 \\ & (819) \\ & 122 \\ 1,475 \\ & (667) \\ \end{array}$ $\begin{array}{c} (1,019) \\ (5,416) \\ (1,049) \\ (2,414) \\ \end{array}$	<pre>\$ 15,055 2,530 33 763  834 3,203 (505) 16,261 (1,160) 937</pre>

	=======		==	======
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	743	\$	32,718
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Other long-term liabilities		332		845
Other accrued expenses		(419)		(139)
Accrued income taxes		177		(4,728)
benefits		603		(1, 211)

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