HIGHWAY HOLDINGS LTD Form 6-K February 05, 2018
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 6-K
REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER
PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16 OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
February 5, 2018
Commission File Number 000-28990
HIGHWAY HOLDINGS LIMITED
(Translation of Registrant's Name Into English)
Suite 1801, Level 18
Landmark North
39 Lung Sum Avenue
Sheung Shui
New Territories, Hong Kong
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F. Form 20-F Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

Attached to this Report on Form 6-K is the press release issued by the registrant on February 5, 2018.

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.

HIGHWAY HOLDINGS LIMITED

Date: February 5, 2018 By/s/ ROLAND W. KOHL Roland W. Kohl Chief Executive Officer

NEWS RELEASE

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HIGHWAY HOLDINGS REPORTS FISCAL 2018 THIRD QUARTER

AND NINE-MONTH RESULTS

HONG KONG — **February 5, 2018** — Highway Holdings Limited (**Nasdaq: HIHO**) today reported results for its fiscal third quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2017.

Net sales for the fiscal 2018 third quarter were \$5.0 million compared with \$5.4 million a year ago -- reflecting the continuous impact of a previously announced strategic decision to phase out certain low-margin business.

Net sales for the fiscal 2018 nine-month period were \$15.0 million compared with \$14.9 million a year ago.

Net income for the fiscal 2018 third quarter was \$379,000, or \$0.10 per diluted share, compared with \$270,000, or \$0.07 per diluted share, in the same quarter a year earlier -- reflecting substantial contributions derived from tooling orders during the quarter.

Net income for the fiscal 2018 nine-month period was \$808,000, or \$0.21 per diluted share, compared with \$308,000, or \$0.08 per diluted share, a year earlier. Gross profit margin for the three- and nine-month periods ended December 31, 2017 increased to 32.2 percent and 30.5 percent, respectively, compared with 28 percent and 26.4 percent, respectively, a year earlier. Gross profit benefitted from product mix and from the substantial billings for tooling, as noted above. A substantial portion of the costs associated with the tooling orders was already absorbed in previous quarters, and the recognition of the tooling revenues during the fiscal third quarter increased gross profit.

Selling, general and administrative expenses remained substantially unchanged for both the third quarter and nine-month periods despite increasing wages and operating costs in both Hong Kong and Shenzhen, China. Operating income for the three-month period ended December 31, 2017 was \$559,000 compared with \$370,000 in the prior year. Operating income for the nine months increased sharply to \$1.05 million compared with \$421,000 a year earlier, due to the higher gross margins noted above.

"We continue to focus on organic growth and appropriate new business opportunities to increase sales momentum," said Roland Kohl, chairman, president and chief executive officer.

"As noted in last quarter's financial release, an ongoing challenge for the company is to balance the increasing costs in China and Hong Kong, which result in continuously increasing wages, with the pricing expectations of our customers," Kohl said. He added that the company's two- pronged strategic objective is to improve this situation by greater utilization of automation in China and increased utilization of lower-cost labor manufacturing in Myanmar.

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Highway Holdings Ltd.

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Currency exchange rates had a minimal impact on the company's net income for the nine-month period ended December 31, 2017. The company reported a \$9,000 currency exchange loss compared with a \$53,000 exchange loss in fiscal 2017 -- mainly due to the strengthening of the RMB at December 31, 2017. The company does not engage in currency exchange rate hedging, and the fluctuations in the exchange rate of the RMB since January 1, 2017 are expected to affect the company's future results.

Kohl noted the company's balance sheet remains very strong. The company's total cash position at December 31, 2017 increased to about \$11 million, or approximately \$2.89 per share, from \$9.8 million at December 31, 2016, despite dividend payments and on-going equipment and other capital investments. The company's current ratio was 2.65:1 at December 31, 2017, and the company's total cash exceeded all current and long-term liabilities combined by \$4.7 million.

About Highway Holdings

Highway Holdings produces a wide variety of high-quality products for blue chip original equipment manufacturers -from simple parts and components to sub-assemblies and finished products. Highway Holdings' administrative office
is located in Hong Kong and its manufacturing facilities are located in Shenzhen in the People's Republic of China and
Yangon, Myanmar.

Except for the historical information contained herein, the matters discussed in this press release are forward-looking statements which involve risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to economic, competitive, governmental, political and technological factors affecting the company's revenues, operations, markets, products and prices, and other factors discussed in the company's various filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including without limitation, the company's annual reports on Form 20-F.

(Financial Tables Follow)

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HIGHWAY HOLDINGS LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Statement of Income

(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)

(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended December 31,		Nine Months Ended December 31,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Net sales Cost of sales Gross profit	\$5,033 3,410 1,623	\$5,438 3,918 1,520	\$14,989 10,412 4,577	\$14,883 10,952 3,931
Selling, general and administrative expenses Operating income	1,064 559	1,150 370	3,528 1,049	3,510 421
Non-operating items				
Exchange gain /(loss), net Interest income Gain/Loss on disposal of Asset Other income/(expenses)	2 4 2	(79) 2 1 —	12 48 —	(53) 4 12
Total non-operating income/ (expenses)	8	(76)	51	(37)
Share of profits/ (loss) of equity investees Net income before income tax and non-controlling interests	— 567	<u> </u>		 384
Income taxes Net Income before non-controlling interests	(177) 390	(30) 264	(268) 832	(80) 304
Less: net (loss)/gain attributable to non-controlling interests Net Income attributable to Highway Holdings Limited shareholders	11 \$379	(6 \$270	24 \$808	(4) \$308
Net Income per share - basic and diluted	\$0.10	\$0.07	\$0.21	\$0.08
Weighted average number of shares outstanding Basic Diluted	3,801 3,801	3,801 3,801	3,801 3,801	3,801 3,801

HIGHWAY HOLDINGS LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidated Balance Sheet

(In thousands, except per share data)

	December 31 2017	March 31 2017
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable, net of doubtful accounts Inventories Prepaid expenses and other current assets Total current assets	\$ 10,973 3,061 1,843 669 16,546	\$10,028 3,403 2,265 714 16,410
Property, plant and equipment, (net) Goodwill Long-term deposits Total assets	892 77 111 \$ 17,626	954 77 111 \$17,552
Current liabilities: Accounts payable Other liabilities and accrued expenses Income tax payable Dividend payable Total current liabilities Long term liabilities:	\$ 1,506 3,937 559 243 6,245	\$2,391 3,053 328 438 6,210
Deferred income taxes Total liabilities	32 6,277	32 6,242
Shareholders' equity: Common shares, \$0.01 par value Additional paid-in capital Retained earnings Accumulated other comprehensive (loss)/income Treasury shares, at cost – 5,049 shares as of December 31, 2017; and March 31, 2017 respectively Total Highway Holdings Limited shareholders' equity	38 11,370 (14 (97) (14 11,283	38 11,370) 13) (136)) (14) 11,271
Non-controlling interest Total shareholders' equity Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	66 11,349 \$ 17,626	39 11,310 \$17,552