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HAIN CELESTIAL GROUP INC
Form 8-K
October 30, 2003

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)
October 30, 2003

THE HAIN CELESTIAL GROUP, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

0-22818
(Commission
File Number)

22-3240619
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

58 South Service Road
Melville, New York

(Address of principal executive offices)

11747

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (631) 730-2200

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Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On October 30, 2003, The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. announced its earnings for its first fiscal year quarter ended September 30, 2003.

A copy of the related press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1.

SIGNATURES

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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 hereunto duly authorized.

THE HAIN CELESTIAL GROUP, INC.

Dated: October 30, 2003

By: /s/ Ira J. Lamel

Name: Ira J. Lamel
Title: Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. -----	Description -----
99.1	Press release dated October 30, 2003

Exhibit 99.1

THE HAIN CELESTIAL GROUP REPORTS STRONG 32% REVENUE GROWTH AND 36% EPS GROWTH IN FIRST QUARTER

Net Income of \$0.19 per share vs. \$0.14 per share in Prior Year's Quarter
Revenue Grows 32% Over the Prior Year's Quarter to
Record First Quarter Revenue of \$127.1 Million

MELVILLE, NY, October 30, 2003 -- The Hain Celestial Group (NASDAQ:HAIN), the leading natural and organic food company, today announced strong results for the Fiscal 2004 first quarter. Hain Celestial reported net income of \$6.5 million, or \$0.19 per share in the first quarter this year, compared with net income of \$4.7 million, or \$0.14 per share in the prior year's comparable quarter. Net income per share grew 36% over the prior year's quarter. First quarter sales grew 32% to \$127.1 million, a first quarter record for the company, compared with net sales of \$96.4 million in the prior year period.

Operating income increased by 47% in the quarter to \$11.3 million as compared to \$7.7 million in the prior year's quarter. The Company reported that gross margins increased to 29.3% over the prior year's 28.8%. Further, selling, general and administrative expenses were reduced to 20.3% of sales this year versus 20.8% last year, even with increased advertising and marketing expenses,

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reflecting the Company's ability to drive increased sales through its existing infrastructure.

Irwin Simon, President and Chief Executive Officer, said, "We are very pleased with our good performance this quarter. Our company-wide growth reflects our success in capitalizing on increased consumer demand for natural and organic products. We grew several key brands and businesses, including 6% growth at Celestial Seasonings and 40% in our Melville businesses. Terra enjoyed renewed growth, with sales increasing 13% in the quarter over the prior year. Our business in Canada grew 23% during the quarter, and our business in Europe grew 59% in the quarter.

"We are particularly pleased that our businesses experienced strong growth both internally and from brands acquired during the 2003 fiscal year. Our progress in integrating Imagine, Walnut Acres, and Grains Noirs continues on track. As we integrate acquired businesses, we are confident that we will continue to improve our margins," said Mr. Simon.

The Company said that its previously announced "30 in 3" cost savings initiative is underway, and that it expects initial savings from this program to begin in the second half of the current fiscal year.

Mr. Simon continued, "At The Hain Celestial Group, we are proud to be in our 10th Anniversary Year, and we are even prouder to be Changing the Way the World Eats. Today, over 60% of

adults and 13% of children in the United States are considered obese. Our continued mission is to provide people with high quality natural and organic products that adhere to stringent standards and have never included trans-fat or hydrogenated oils, ingredients that can cause serious health issues."

Hain Celestial launched numerous new products this quarter that reflect this approach. "In September, we were proud to be the first company to launch a full line of all natural, low-carb products under our CarbFit(R) label, co-branded with our popular Health Valley(R), Hain Pure Snax(R), and DeBole's(R) brands," said Mr. Simon. "Beginning this November, CarbFit(R) snacks will be coupled with Michelob(R) ULTRA low carb beer in promotional displays at participating stores nationwide. We also introduced Celestial Seasonings innovative TeaHouse Lattes and Chais, Health Valley(R) Heartwise(TM), Empower(TM) and Slender(TM) cereals, Mini Cookies and Peanut Butter and Jelly Bars, and exciting new Terra Potato Chip products. Our new Rice Dream Heartwise(TM) rice drink co-developed in our new collaboration with Cargill will be launched in November."

Mr. Simon concluded, "As we look forward to the remainder of our Fiscal 2004, we confirm our earlier earnings guidance for the full year of \$0.95 -- \$1.03 per share, reflecting 20% to 30% earnings per share growth over Fiscal 2003's GAAP earnings of \$0.79 per share. As previously announced, we expect revenues of \$540 - \$565 million reflecting annual growth of 16% to 21% over Fiscal 2003's sales of \$466.5 million."

About The Hain Celestial Group

The Hain Celestial Group, headquartered in Melville, NY, is a natural, specialty and snack food company. The Company is a leader in 13 of the top 15 natural food categories, with such well-known natural food brands as Celestial Seasonings (R) teas, Walnut Acres(R), Hain Pure Foods(R), Westbrae(R), Westsoy(R), Rice Dream(R), Soy Dream(R), Imagine(R), Arrowhead Mills(R), Health Valley(R), Breadshop's(R), Casbah(R), Garden of Eatin(R), Terra Chips(R), Yves Veggie Cuisine(R), The Good Dog (R), The Good Slice(R), DeBoles(R), Lima(R),

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Biomarche(R), Grains Noirs(R), Earth's Best(R), and Nile Spice. The Company's principal specialty product lines include Hollywood(R) cooking oils, Estee(R) sugar-free products, Kineret(R) kosher foods, Boston Better Snacks(R), and Alba Foods(R). The Hain Celestial Group's website can be found at www.hain-celestial.com.

Statements made in this Press Release that are estimates of past or future performance are based on a number of factors, some of which are outside of the Company's control. Statements made in this Press Release that state the intentions, beliefs, expectations or predictions of The Hain Celestial Group and its management for the future are forward-looking statements. It is important to note that actual results could differ materially from those projected in such forward-looking statements. Information concerning factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in forward-looking statements is contained from time to time in filings of The Hain Celestial Group with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Copies of these filings may be obtained by contacting The Hain Celestial Group or the SEC.

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THE HAIN CELESTIAL GROUP, INC.
Consolidated Balance Sheets
(In thousands)

	September 30, 2003	June 30, 2003
(Unaudited)		
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 12,879	\$ 10,9
Trade receivables, net	74,895	61,2
Inventories	69,068	66,4
Recoverable income taxes	641	2
Deferred income taxes	3,171	3,1
Other current assets	7,019	7,6
Total current assets	167,673	149,7
Property, plant and equipment, net	67,425	68,6
Goodwill, net	298,971	296,5
Trademarks and other intangible assets, net	55,891	55,9
Other assets	10,393	10,6
Total assets	\$ 600,353	\$ 581,5
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 53,684	\$ 55,7
Income taxes payable	4,312	1,8
Current portion of long-term debt	19,056	8,8
Total current liabilities	77,052	66,3

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Deferred income taxes	14,912	14,912
Long-term debt, less current portion	59,227	59,400
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Total liabilities	151,191	140,700
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock	349	349
Additional paid-in capital	365,464	364,800
Retained earnings	85,631	79,000
Treasury stock	(8,435)	(8,100)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	6,153	4,600
	-----	-----
Total stockholders' equity	449,162	440,700
	-----	-----
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 600,353	\$ 581,500
	=====	=====

THE HAIN CELESTIAL GROUP, INC.
Consolidated Statements of Operations
(in thousands, except per share amounts)

	Three Months Ended September 30	
	2003	2002
	-----	-----
	(Unaudited)	
Net sales	\$ 127,053	\$ 96,400
Cost of Sales	89,891	68,600
	-----	-----
Gross profit	37,162	27,700
SG&A expenses	25,819	20,000
	-----	-----
Operating income	11,343	7,700
Interest expense and other expenses	791	1,000
	-----	-----
Income before income taxes	10,552	7,500
Income tax provision	4,010	2,800
	-----	-----
Net income	\$ 6,542	\$ 4,600
	=====	=====
Basic per share amounts	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.19
	=====	=====

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Diluted per share amounts	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.
	=====	=====
Weighted average common shares outstanding:		
Basic	34,221	33,7
	=====	=====
Diluted	35,356	34,3
	=====	=====