## 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): October 7, 2009

# Wolverine World Wide, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

	Delaware	001-0	6024	38-1185150						
	(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)		(IRS Employer Identification No.)						
	9341 Courtland Drive Rockford, Michigan			49351						
	(Address of principal executive of	offices)		(Zip Code)						
	Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (616) 866-5500 (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 October 7, 2009, Wolverine World Wide, Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release announcing its earnings for the Company's third quarter of 2009, attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Form 8-K (the "8-K"), which is here incorporated by reference. This 8-K and Exhibit 99.1 shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits:

99.1 Press Release dated October 7, 2009. This Exhibit shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act, or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

#### 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 hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: October 7, 2009

WOLVERINE WORLD WIDE, INC. (Registrant)

/s/ Donald T. Grimes Donald T. Grimes Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

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### EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number

Document

99.1

Wolverine World Wide, Inc. Press Release dated October 7, 2009.



WOLVERINE WORLD WIDE, INC. 9341 Courtland Drive, Rockford, MI 49351 Phone (616) 866-5500; FAX (616) 866-0257

> FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Don Grimes (616) 863-4404

#### WOLVERINE WORLD WIDE, INC. ANNOUNCES FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THIRD QUARTER 2009, RAISES FULL-YEAR EARNINGS GUIDANCE

**Rockford, Michigan, October 7, 2009** — Wolverine World Wide, Inc. (NYSE: WWW) today reported financial results for the third quarter of 2009 and raised full-year earnings per share guidance.

Adjusting for the negative impact of foreign exchange rates, revenue declined 6.9% in the quarter to \$296.8 million, as challenging trading conditions continued across most of the Company's major markets. Reported revenue in the third quarter was \$286.8 million, a decline of 10.1% versus the prior year.

The Company continued to make substantial progress in the quarter with its strategic restructuring plan, which is focused on generating significant efficiencies across the Company's supply chain, logistics and backroom functions. Non-recurring restructuring and related charges of \$5.1 million, or \$0.08 per fully diluted share, were recorded in the quarter. Adjusting for these charges, fully diluted earnings in the quarter were \$0.62 per share, equal to the \$0.62 per share in the prior year. Further adjusting for a negative \$0.05 per share impact in the quarter from foreign exchange, fully diluted earnings were \$0.67 per share, 8.1% above the prior year. Reported fully diluted earnings were \$0.54 per share.

"We are very pleased with our third quarter results, as the Company continues to deliver excellent earnings performance in the most challenging economic environment that many of us have ever experienced," stated Blake W. Krueger, the Company's CEO and President. "We remain confident that our multi-brand, multi-country business model and our execution against that model can deliver exceptional results in a variety of economic climates.

Krueger continued, "The strength of our brand portfolio coupled with our growth and efficiency initiatives convince us that the Company is positioned for success as we cycle through the global recession. Our key strategic objectives remain unchanged as we stay focused on growing our proven brands via greater wholesale penetration, expanding our consumer-direct initiatives and further extending into apparel and accessories. The demonstrated success of these strategies, combined with our ability to generate permanent cost savings by mining for efficiencies throughout the organization, has us poised to achieve accelerated profit growth in an improved consumer spending environment."

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#### Q3 2009

Don Grimes, the Company's Chief Financial Officer, commented, "The Company's impressive 2009 financial performance continued in the third quarter. A heightened emphasis on reducing discretionary operating expenses and the recognition of benefits from new tax strategies helped us achieve earnings per share, excluding restructuring and related charges, equal to the prior year in extremely tough economic conditions."

Highlights for the quarter:

- Gross margin was 40.9%, compared to prior-year gross margin of 40.4%, after adjusting for \$1.3 million
  of non-recurring restructuring and related charges and the impact of foreign exchange. Reported gross
  margin was 39.7%.
- Operating expenses decreased 11.1% from the prior year after adjusting for non-recurring restructuring and related charges, the benefit of a stronger U.S. dollar, expenses directly related to newly-acquired brands, and increased pension expense. Reported operating expenses in the quarter were \$77.8 million, a 5.6% decrease from the prior year.
- The effective tax rate in the third quarter dropped to 26.6%, reflecting the cumulative year-to-date benefits from the implementation of tax planning strategies, related primarily to the Company's international operations.
- Accounts receivable at quarter end were 7.1% lower than the prior year's third quarter, as the Company continues to closely monitor customers' credit standing and remains diligent regarding timely collections.
- Third quarter inventory was down 5.2% compared to the prior year. As planned, the Company made a meaningful reduction in inventory in the quarter and anticipates continued inventory reduction by year-end 2009.
- The Company has generated \$71.1 million of cash from operations year to date, helping reduce its revolver balance to \$9.9 million at the end of the third quarter, down from \$34.8 million at the end of the second quarter. The Company maintains a strong balance sheet with total interest-bearing debt of \$11.6 million offset by \$78.5 million of cash and cash equivalents.

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#### Q3 2009

The Company is pleased to announce that it is raising its full-year 2009 earnings guidance. Excluding full-year restructuring and related charges, the Company now expects fully diluted earnings per share in the range of \$1.65 to \$1.75 per share, up from its previous range of \$1.55 to \$1.73 per fully diluted share. This earnings guidance continues to reflect an expected full-year negative foreign exchange impact of \$0.14 per fully diluted share and \$0.12 per fully diluted share of increased pension expense. The Company is also narrowing its expectation for full-year revenue to a range of \$1.080 billion to \$1.110 billion. The midpoint of the revenue range remains unchanged at \$1.095 billion. Foreign exchange has negatively impacted year-to-date reported revenue by approximately \$41 million, and the Company expects minimal foreign exchange impact on fourth quarter reported revenue. Reported fully diluted earnings per share for the year are now expected to be in the range of \$1.15 to \$1.25, including the \$0.50 per share midpoint of the estimated range of restructuring and related charges.

Krueger concluded, "Our year-to-date performance and our outlook for the fourth quarter give us the confidence to raise our annual earnings guidance. We have an outstanding portfolio of lifestyle brands that translates across geographies and appeals to a wide range of consumers. The dedication of our team and our ongoing ability to deliver compelling style, innovation and technical performance features in our branded products are enabling the Company to successfully navigate the current environment and positioning us to continue delivering superior returns to our shareholders."

The Company will host a conference call at 8:30 a.m. EDT today to discuss these results and current business trends. To listen to the call at the Company's website, go to www.wolverineworldwide.com, click on "Investors" in the navigation bar, and then click on "Webcast" from the top navigation bar of the "Investors" page. To listen to the webcast, your computer must have Windows Media Player, which can be downloaded for free at www.wolverineworldwide.com. In addition, the conference call can be heard at www.streetevents.com. A replay of the call will be available at the Company's website through October 21, 2009.

With a commitment to service and product excellence, Wolverine World Wide, Inc. is one of the world's leading marketers of branded casual, active lifestyle, work, outdoor sport and uniform footwear and apparel. The Company's portfolio of highly recognized brands includes: Bates<sup>®</sup>, Chaco<sup>®</sup>, Cushe<sup>™</sup>, Hush Puppies<sup>®</sup>, HYTEST<sup>®</sup>, Merrell<sup>®</sup>, Sebago<sup>®</sup> Soft Style<sup>®</sup> and Wolverine<sup>®</sup>. The Company also is the exclusive footwear licensee of popular brands including CAT<sup>®</sup>, Harley-Davidson<sup>®</sup> and Patagonia<sup>®</sup>. The Company's products are carried by leading retailers in the U.S. and globally in 180 countries and territories. For additional information, please visit our website, www.wolverineworldwide.com.

— more —

#### Q3 2009

This press release contains forward-looking statements. In addition, words such as "estimates," "anticipates", "expects." "intends." "should." "will." variations of such words and similar expressions are intended to identify forwardlooking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions ("Risk Factors") that are difficult to predict with regard to timing, extent, likelihood and degree of occurrence. Therefore, actual results and outcomes may materially differ from what may be expressed or forecasted in such forward-looking statements. Current uncertainty in global economic conditions makes it particularly difficult to predict product demand and other related matters and makes it more likely that the Company's actual results could differ materially from expectations. Risk Factors include, among others: the Company's ability to successfully integrate and develop the Cushe and Chaco brands and businesses; the successful implementation of the Company's strategic restructuring plan; changes in duty structures in countries of import and export including anti-dumping measures in Europe and other countries; trade defense actions by countries; the Company's ability to implement and recognize benefits from tax planning strategies; changes in consumer preferences or spending patterns; cancellation of orders for future delivery; changes in planned customer demand, re-orders or at-once orders; the availability and pricing of foreign footwear factory capacity; reliance on foreign sourcing; regulatory or other changes affecting the supply of materials used in manufacturing; the availability of power, labor and resources in key foreign sourcing countries, including China; the impact of competition and pricing; the impact of changes in the value of foreign currencies and the relative value to the U.S. Dollar; integration and operation of newly acquired and licensed businesses; the development of new initiatives; the development of apparel; retail buying patterns; consolidation in the retail sector; changes in economic and market conditions; acts and effects of war and terrorism; weather; and additional factors discussed in the Company's reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and exhibits thereto. Other Risk Factors exist, and new Risk Factors emerge from time to time that may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements. Given these risks and uncertainties, investors should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements as a prediction of actual results. Furthermore, the Company undertakes no obligation to update, amend or clarify forward-looking statements.

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#### WOLVERINE WORLD WIDE, INC.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (Unaudited) (\$000s, except per share data)

		12 Weeks	End	ed	36 Weeks Ended					
	Sep	tember 12, 2009	· · · ·		September 12, 2009		September 6, 2008			
Revenue	\$	286,764	\$	318,852	\$	788,526	\$	874,452		
Cost of products sold		171,498		190,122		474,939		521,762		
Restructuring and related costs		1,301				4,639				
Gross profit		113,965		128,730		308,948		352,690		
Gross margin		39.7%		40.4%		39.2%		40.3%		
Selling, general, and administrative										
expenses		74,015		82,389		222,158		244,192		
Restructuring and related costs		3,787				22,826				
Operating expenses		77,802		82,389		244,984		244,192		
Operating profit		36,163		46,341		63,964		108,498		
Operating margin		12.6%		14.5%		8.1%		12.4%		
Interest expense, net		15		309		223		674		
Other expense, net		<u>(333)</u>		(880)		79		(1)		
		(318)		(571)		302		673		
Earnings before income taxes		36,481		46,912		63,662		107,825		
Income taxes		9,687		15,721		18,467		36,121		
Net earnings	<u>\$</u>	26,794	\$	31,191	\$	45,195	\$	71,704		
Diluted earnings per share	\$	0.54	\$	0.62	\$	0.91	\$	1.41		

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited) (\$000s)

	Sept	September 12, 2009		September 6, 2008		
ASSETS:						
Cash & cash equivalents	\$	78,539	\$	74,310		
Receivables		223,453		240,522		
Inventories		183,983		194,062		
Other current assets		24,352		21,703		
Total current assets		510,327		530,597		
Property, plant & equipment, net		75,741		83,258		
Other assets		121,536		107,839		
Total Assets	<u>\$</u>	707,604	\$	721,694		
LIABILITIES & EQUITY:						
Current maturities on long-term debt	\$	556	\$	10,725		
Revolving credit agreement		9.900		70,897		
Accounts payable and other accrued liabilities		148,398		144,573		
Total current liabilities		158,854		226,195		
Long-term debt		1,112		· —		
Other non-current liabilities						
		75,143		33,314		
Stockholders' equity		472,495		462,185		
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$	707,604	\$	721,694		

As required by the Securities and Exchange Commission Regulation G, the following tables contain information regarding the non-GAAP adjustments used by the Company in the presentation of its financial results:

#### WOLVERINE WORLD WIDE, INC.

#### RECONCILIATION OF REPORTED FINANCIAL RESULTS TO ADJUSTED FINANCIAL RESULTS, EXCLUDING RESTRUCTURING AND RELATED COSTS AND IMPACT OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES\* (Unaudited) (\$000s)

As Reported As Adjusted Impact of As Adjusted 12 Weeks Ended Restructuring and 12 Weeks Ended Foreign Exchange 12 Weeks Ended September 12, 2009 Related Costs(a) September 12, 2009 September 12, 2009 Rates(a) 286,764 \$ - \$ 286,764 \$ 10,067 \$ 296,831 Revenue % change from prior vear (10.1%) (6.9%) 113,965 1,301 \$ 115,266 \$ 6.077 \$ 121,343 Gross profit \$ \$ Gross margin 39.7% 40.9% Diluted earnings per 0.54 \$ 0.08 \$ 0.62 \$ 0.05 \$ 0.67 share \$ % change from prior (12.9%) 0.0% 8.1% vear

#### RECONCILIATION OF REPORTED OPERATING EXPENSES TO ADJUSTED OPERATING EXPENSES, EXCLUDING RESTRUCTURING AND RELATED COSTS, IMPACT OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES, NEWLY-ACQUIRED BRANDS, AND INCREASED PENSION EXPENSE\*

(Unaudited) (\$000s)

As Reported 12 Weeks Ended <u>September 12, 2009</u>		Restructuring and Related Costs(b)		Impact of Foreign Exchange Rates( <sup>b</sup> )		Newly- Acquired Brands( <sup>b</sup> )		Increased Pension Expense <sup>(b)</sup>		As Adjusted 12 Weeks Ended September 12, 2009		
Operating expenses	\$	77,802	\$	(3,787)	\$	2,063	\$	(808)	\$	(2,047)	\$	73,223
% change from prior year		(5.6%)										(11.1%)

(a) These adjustments present the Company's results of operations on a continuing basis without the effects of fluctuations in restructuring and related costs or impact of foreign exchange rates. The adjusted financial results are used by management to, and allow investors to, evaluate the operating performance of the Company on a comparable basis.

- (b) These adjustments present the Company's results of operations on a continuing basis without the effects of fluctuations in restructuring and related costs, impact of foreign exchange rates, newly acquired brands or increased pension expense. The adjusted financial results are used by management to, and allow investors to, evaluate the operating performance of the Company on a comparable basis.
- To supplement the consolidated financial statements presented in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP"), the Company describes what certain financial measures would have been in the absence of restructuring and related costs, impact of foreign exchange rates, newly acquired brands and increased pension expense. The Company believes these non-GAAP measures provide useful information to both management and investors to increase comparability to the prior period by adjusting for certain items that may not be indicative of core operating measures. Management does not, nor should investors, consider such non-GAAP financial measures in isolation from, or as a substitution for, financial information prepared in accordance with GAAP. A reconciliation of all non-GAAP measures included in this press release, to the most directly comparable GAAP measures, are found in the financial tables above.

#### RECONCILIATION OF EPS GUIDANCE TO ADJUSTED EPS GUIDANCE, EXCLUDING RESTRUCTURING AND RELATED COSTS \* (Unaudited)

	Full-Year 2009	Restructuring	Full-Year 2009
	Guidance	and Related	Guidance
	<u>(</u> GAAP Basis)	Costs <sup>(a)</sup>	<u>As Adjusted(a)</u>
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 1.15 – \$1.25	\$ 0.50(b)	\$ 1.65 - \$1.75

- (a) These adjustments present the Company's full-year earnings per share guidance on a continuing basis without the effects of restructuring and related costs. The adjusted guidance is used by management to, and allows investors to, evaluate the anticipated operating performance of the Company on a comparable basis.
- (b) This represents the midpoint of the estimated range of 2009 restructuring and related costs of \$33 million to \$36 million, or \$0.47 to \$0.52 per fully diluted share.
- \* To supplement the consolidated financial statements presented in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP"), the Company describes what certain financial measures would have been in the absence of restructuring and related costs. The Company believes these non-GAAP measures provide useful information to both management and investors to increase comparability to the prior period by adjusting for certain items that may not be indicative of core operating measures. Management does not, nor should investors, consider such non-GAAP financial measures in isolation from, or as a substitution for, financial information prepared in accordance with GAAP. A reconciliation of all non-GAAP measures included in this press release, to the most directly comparable GAAP measures, are found in the financial tables above.