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BALCHEM CORP
Form 10-Q
May 10, 2006

FORM 10-Q

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

(Mark One) Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of
 the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For The Quarterly Period Ended March 31, 2006

or

Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number 1-13648

BALCHEM CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland 13-2578432

(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)
incorporation or organization)

P.O. Box 600 New Hampton, New York 10958

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

845-326-5600

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

Indicate by a 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 filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes No

As of May 8, 2006 the registrant had 11,611,470 shares of its Common Stock, \$.06 2/3 par value, outstanding.

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Part 1 - Financial Information
Item 1. Financial Statements

BALCHEM CORPORATION
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets
(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)
Unaudited

	Assets -----	March 31, 2006 -----	December 31, 2005 -----
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents		\$ 6,346	\$ 12,996
Accounts receivable		11,754	11,521
Inventories		8,803	8,540
Prepaid income taxes		--	143
Prepaid expenses		1,411	1,790
Deferred income taxes		271	276
		-----	-----
Total current assets		28,585	35,266
Property, plant and equipment, net		25,905	24,400
Goodwill		24,850	13,327
Intangible assets with finite lives, net		7,416	2,148
		-----	-----
Total assets		\$ 86,756 =====	\$ 75,141 =====
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity -----			
Current liabilities:			
Trade accounts payable		\$ 2,627	\$ 2,562
Accrued expenses		1,864	2,601
Accrued compensation and other benefits		861	1,756
Customer deposits and other deferred revenue		900	1,186
Current portion of long-term debt		2,000	--
Dividends payable		--	1,045
Income tax payable		1,355	--
		-----	-----
Total current liabilities		9,607	9,150
Long-term debt		5,250	--
Deferred income taxes		6,370	4,015
Other long-term obligations		1,057	1,043
		-----	-----
Total liabilities		22,284	14,208
Stockholders' equity:			
Preferred stock, \$25 par value. Authorized 2,000,000 shares; none issued and outstanding		--	--
Common stock, \$.0667 par value. Authorized 25,000,000 shares; 11,649,645 shares issued and 11,606,970 shares outstanding at March 31, 2006 and 11,640,964 shares issued and 11,576,948 shares outstanding at December 31, 2005		776	776

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Additional paid-in capital	8,304	8,008
Retained earnings	56,164	53,306
Treasury stock, at cost: 42,675 and 64,016 shares at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively	(772)	(1,157)
Total stockholders' equity	64,472	60,933
	-----	-----
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 86,756	\$ 75,141
	=====	=====

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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BALCHEM CORPORATION
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Earnings
(In thousands, except per share data)
(unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2006	2005
	-----	-----
Net sales	\$ 24,597	\$ 19,340
Cost of sales	16,375	12,158
	-----	-----
Gross profit	8,222	7,182
Operating expenses:		
Selling expenses	1,669	1,229
Research and development expenses	526	485
General and administrative expenses	1,558	1,437
	-----	-----
	3,753	3,151
Earnings from operations	4,469	4,031
Other expenses (income):		
Interest (income)	(62)	(40)
Interest expense	86	2
	-----	-----
Earnings before income tax expense	4,445	4,069
Income tax expense	1,587	1,501
	-----	-----
Net earnings	\$ 2,858	\$ 2,568
	=====	=====
Net earnings per common share - basic	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.23
	=====	=====
Net earnings per common share - diluted	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.21

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See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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BALCHEM CORPORATION
 Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
 (In thousands)
 (unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2006	2005
	-----	-----
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net earnings	\$ 2,858	\$ 2,568
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	787	670
Shares issued under employee benefit plans	117	88
Deferred income taxes	(8)	118
Stock compensation expense	262	--
Excess tax benefits from stock compensation	--	17
Provision for doubtful accounts	--	18
Changes in assets and liabilities net of effects of acquisition:		
Accounts receivable	(148)	(1,399)
Inventories	289	157
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	379	487
Income taxes	1,498	1,353
Customer deposits and other deferred revenue	(286)	(203)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(1,566)	(342)
Other long-term obligations	17	16
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by operating activities	4,199	3,548
	-----	-----
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Capital expenditures	(263)	(377)
Cash paid for intangible assets acquired	(32)	(18)
Acquisition of assets	(17,058)	--
	-----	-----
Net cash used in investing activities	(17,353)	(395)
	-----	-----
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from long-term borrowings	10,000	--
Principal payments on long-term debt	(2,750)	--
Proceeds from stock options and warrants exercised	206	860
Excess tax benefits from stock compensation	96	--
Dividends paid	(1,045)	(685)
Other financing activities	(3)	(4)
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by financing activities	6,504	171
	-----	-----
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(6,650)	3,324

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Cash and cash equivalents beginning of period	12,996	12,734
	-----	-----
Cash and cash equivalents end of period	\$ 6,346	\$ 16,058
	=====	=====

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(All dollar amounts in thousands, except per share data)

NOTE 1 - CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The condensed consolidated financial statements presented herein have been prepared by the Company in accordance with the accounting policies described in its December 31, 2005 consolidated financial statements, and should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes, which appear in our Annual Report on Form 10-K. References in this report to "the Company" mean Balchem and/or its subsidiaries, BCP Ingredients, Inc., Balchem Minerals Corporation and Chelated Minerals Corporation, as the context requires.

In the opinion of management, the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements furnished in this Form 10-Q include all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of the financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the interim periods presented. All such adjustments are of a normal recurring nature. The condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles governing interim financial statements and the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X and therefore do not include some information and notes necessary to conform to annual reporting requirements. The results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2006 are not necessarily indicative of the operating results expected for the full year.

NOTE 2 - CMC ACQUISITION

On February 8, 2006, the Company, through its wholly owned subsidiary Balchem Minerals Corporation ("BMC"), completed an acquisition (the "Acquisition") of all of the outstanding capital stock of Chelated Minerals Corporation ("CMC"), a privately held Utah corporation, for a purchase price of \$17,350 subject to adjustment based upon CMC's actual working capital and other adjustments. On February 6, 2006, the Company and its principal bank entered into a new Loan Agreement (the "New Loan Agreement") providing for an unsecured term loan of \$10,000 (the "Term Loan"), the proceeds of which were used to fund the acquisition, in part. The remaining balance of the purchase price of the Acquisition was funded through Balchem's cash on hand. The Term Loan is payable in equal monthly installments of principal, together with accrued interest, and has a maturity date of March 1, 2009. The Term Loan is subject to an interest rate equal to LIBOR plus 1.00%. At March 31, 2006, this interest rate was 5.64%.

The preliminary allocation of the total purchase price, including acquisition costs, of CMC's net tangible and intangible assets was based on their estimated fair values as of February 8, 2006. Adjustments to these estimates will be included in the allocation of the purchase price of CMC upon settlement of any working capital or other adjustments. The excess of the purchase price over the identifiable intangible and net tangible assets was allocated to goodwill. The preliminary purchase price has been allocated as follows (in thousands):

	Fair Value Recorded in Purchase Accounting	
Accounts receivable	\$	884
Inventory		552
Property plant and equipment		1,980
Current liabilities		(388)
Other long-term liabilities		(2,368)
Goodwill		11,475
Financing costs		49
Other intangible assets		5,285
Total	\$	17,469

The above acquisition has been accounted for using the purchase method of accounting and the purchase price of the acquisition has been assigned to the net assets acquired based on the fair value of such assets and liabilities at the date of acquisition. The consolidated financial statements include the results of operations of the acquired product lines from the date of purchase.

Pro Forma Summary of Operations

The following unaudited pro forma information has been prepared as if the aforementioned acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2005 and does not include cost savings expected from the transaction. In addition to including the results of operations, the pro forma information gives effect primarily to changes in depreciation and amortization of tangible and intangible assets resulting from the acquisition.

The pro forma information presented does not purport to be indicative of the results that actually would have been attained if the aforementioned acquisition had occurred at the beginning of the periods presented and is not intended to be a projection of future results.

	Pro-Forma Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2006	2005
Net sales	\$ 25,331	\$ 20,939
Net earnings	2,893	2,684
Basic EPS	.25	.23
Diluted EPS	.24	.23

NOTE 3 - ACQUISITION OF ASSETS

Effective June 30, 2005, pursuant to an asset purchase agreement of same date (the "Asset Purchase Agreement"), the Company acquired certain assets of Loders Croklaan USA, LLC ("Seller") relating to the encapsulation, agglomeration and

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granulation business for a purchase price including acquisition costs of \$9,885 plus \$725 for certain product inventories and \$809 for certain accounts receivable. With the exception of \$985, which was paid during the quarter ended June 30, 2005, all of such payment was made on July 1, 2005 from the Company's cash reserves.

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The Asset Purchase Agreement also provides for the contingent payment by the Company of additional consideration to Seller based upon the volume of sales associated with one particular product acquired by the Company during the three year period following the acquisition. Such contingent consideration will be recorded as an additional cost of the acquired product lines.

The allocation of the purchase price of the acquisition has been assigned to the long-term net assets acquired as follows:

	Fair Value Recorded in Purchase Accounting
Equipment	\$ 1,436
Customer List	1,350
Patent	140
Goodwill	6,959
Total	\$ 9,885

The purchase price allocations have been made on the basis of estimates made by the Company. The financial statement items and amounts are subject to subsequent revision to give effect to reclassifications related to the allocation between identifiable assets, intangible assets and goodwill and for other pre-acquisition contingencies that may become resolved during subsequent periods.

The above acquisition has been accounted for using the purchase method of accounting and the purchase price of the acquisition has been assigned to the net assets acquired based on the fair value of such assets and liabilities at the date of acquisition. The consolidated financial statements include the results of operations of the acquired product lines from the date of purchase.

Pro Forma Summary of Operations

The following unaudited pro forma information has been prepared as if the aforementioned acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2005 and does not include cost savings expected from the transaction. In addition to including the results of operations, the pro forma information gives effect primarily to changes in depreciation and amortization of tangible and intangible assets resulting from the acquisition.

The pro forma information presented does not purport to be indicative of the results that actually would have been attained if the aforementioned acquisition had occurred at the beginning of the periods presented and is not intended to be a projection of future results.

Pro-Forma
Three Months Ended

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March 31, 2005

Net sales	\$	20,999
Net earnings		3,044
Basic EPS		.27
Diluted EPS		.26

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NOTE 4 - STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN

In December 2004, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), "Share Based Payment," (SFAS 123R). SFAS 123R establishes the accounting for transactions in which an entity pays for employee services in share-based payment transactions. SFAS 123R requires companies to measure the cost of employee services received in exchange for an award of equity instruments based on the grant-date fair value of the award. The fair value of employee share options and similar instruments is estimated using option-pricing models adjusted for the unique characteristics of those instruments. That cost is recognized over the period during which an employee is required to provide service in exchange for the award. The Company adopted SFAS 123R effective January 1, 2006, using the modified prospective transition method. Under this method, compensation cost is recognized for awards granted and for awards modified, repurchased or cancelled in the period after adoption. Compensation cost is also recognized for the unvested portion of awards granted prior to adoption. Prior year financial statements are not restated. The Company's results for the three months ended March 31, 2006 include an additional \$27 in cost of sales and \$235 of operating expenses relating to the adoption of SFAS 123R. Net earnings were reduced by \$254, or \$0.02 per basic and diluted share. Additionally, upon adoption of SFAS 123R, excess tax benefits related to stock compensation are presented as a cash inflow from financing activities. This change had the effect of decreasing cash flows from operating activities and increasing cash flows from financing activities by \$96.

For the three months ended March 31, 2005, the Company accounted for stock based compensation plans under APB Opinion No. 25 "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees." Compensation cost related to stock options issued to employees was recorded only if the grant-date market price of the underlying stock exceeded the exercise price. The following table illustrates the effect on net earnings and earnings per share if a fair value based method had been applied to all awards.

		March 31, 2005
Net Earnings	\$	2,568
Stock-based employee compensation expense included in net earnings, net of related tax effects		--
Stock-based employee compensation expense determined under fair value based method, net of related tax effects		209
Pro forma net earnings	\$	2,359
Basic earnings per common share:		

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As reported	\$	0.23
Pro forma		0.21
Diluted earnings per common share:		
As reported	\$	0.21
Pro forma		0.20

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The Company's stock incentive plans allow for the granting of restricted stock awards and options to purchase common stock. Both incentive stock options and nonqualified stock options can be awarded under the plans. No option will be exercisable for longer than ten years after the date of grant. The shares to be issued upon exercise of the outstanding options have been approved, reserved and are adequate to cover all exercises. As of March 31, 2006, the plans had 716,940 shares available for future awards. Compensation expense for stock options and restricted stock awards is recognized on a straight-line basis over the vesting period, generally three years for stock options and seven years for restricted stock awards. Certain awards provide for accelerated vesting if there is a change in control or other qualifying events (as defined in the plans).

Option activity for the three months ended March 31, 2006 is summarized below:

	Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Aggregate Intrinsic Value	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term
Outstanding as of December 31, 2005	1,435,465	\$ 12.577	--	--
Granted	8,800	22.588	--	--
Exercised	(23,698)	8.500	--	--
Expired	--	--	--	--
Forfeited	(3,000)	13.866	--	--
Outstanding as of March 31, 2006	1,417,567	\$ 12.700	\$ 14,700	7.2
Exercisable as of March 31, 2006	758,547	\$ 9.177	\$ 10,544	5.8

The fair value of each option grant is estimated on the date of the grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions: dividend yields of 0.4% and 0.4%; expected volatilities of 26% and 29%; risk-free interest rates of 3.8% and 3.7%; and expected lives of 4.5 and 4.9 for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

For the three month periods ended March 31, 2006 and March 31, 2005, the Company used a projected expected life for each award granted based on historical experience of employees' exercise behavior. For the three month periods ended March 31, 2006 and March 31, 2005, expected volatility is based on historical volatility levels. For the three month periods ended March 31, 2006 and March 31, 2005, dividend yields are based on historical dividend yields. Risk-free

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interest rates are based on the implied yields currently available on U.S. Treasury zero coupon issues with a remaining term equal to the expected life.

The weighted-average fair value of options granted during the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 was \$5.23 and \$3.59, respectively. The total intrinsic value of options exercised during the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 was \$320 and \$767, respectively.

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Non-vested restricted stock activity for the three months ended March 31, 2006 is summarized below:

	Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Non-vested balance as of December 31, 2005	22,500	\$ 19.83
Granted	-	-
Vested	-	-
Forfeited	-	-
Non-vested balance as of March 31, 2006	22,500	\$ 19.83

As of March 31, 2006 there was \$2,159 of total unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested share-based compensation arrangements granted under the plans; that cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of two years.

NOTE 5 - INVENTORIES

Inventories at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005 consisted of the following:

	March 31, 2006	December 31, 2005
Raw materials	\$ 4,168	\$ 4,809
Finished goods	4,635	3,731
Total inventories	\$ 8,803	\$ 8,540

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Property, plant and equipment at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005 are summarized as follows:

	March 31, 2006	December 31, 2005
Land	\$ 650	\$ 290
Building	11,067	10,509
Equipment	32,258	31,196

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Construction in Progress	595	332

	44,570	42,327
Less: Accumulated depreciation	18,665	17,927

Net property, plant and equipment	\$ 25,905	\$ 24,400

NOTE 7 - INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Goodwill represents the excess of costs over fair value of assets of businesses acquired. The Company adopted the provisions of SFAS No. 141, Business Combinations, and SFAS No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, as of January 1, 2002. These standards require the use of the purchase method of accounting for a business combination and define an intangible asset. Goodwill and intangible assets acquired in a purchase business combination and determined to have an indefinite useful life are not

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amortized, but are instead tested for impairment at least annually in accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 142. SFAS No. 142 also requires that intangible assets with estimable useful lives be amortized over their respective estimated useful lives to their estimated residual values, and reviewed for impairment in accordance with SFAS No. 144, Accounting for Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets.

As of December 31, 2005, the Company performed an impairment test of its goodwill balance. As of such date, the Company's reporting units' fair values exceeded their carrying amounts, and therefore there was no indication that goodwill was impaired. Accordingly, the Company was not required to perform any further impairment tests. The Company will perform its impairment test next on December 31, 2006.

The Company had goodwill in the amount of \$24,850 and \$13,327 at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively, subject to the provisions of SFAS Nos. 141 and 142. At March 31, 2006, the balance of goodwill includes the cost in excess of net assets acquired of both the CMC acquisition, as described in Note 2, of \$11,475 and the acquired assets of the Loders Croklaan USA, LLC encapsulation, agglomeration and granulation business, described in Note 3, of \$6,959.

As of March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005, the Company had identifiable intangible assets with finite lives with a gross carrying value of approximately \$7,748 and \$2,432, respectively, less accumulated amortization of \$332 and \$284, respectively. At March 31, 2006, the gross carrying amount included a customer list, trade names and trade secrets acquired as part of the CMC acquisition, as described in Note 2, as well as a customer list and patent acquired as part of the acquisition of certain assets of the Loders Croklaan USA, LLC encapsulation, agglomeration and granulation business, described in Note 3.

Identifiable intangible assets with finite lives at March 31, 2006 and December 31, 2005 are summarized as follows:

Amortization Period (in years)	Gross Carrying Amount at 3/31/06	Accumulated Amortization at 3/31/06	Gross Carrying Amount at 12/31/05	Accumula Amortiza at 12/31
--------------------------------------	---	---	--	----------------------------------

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Customer lists	10	\$ 4,888	\$ 101	\$ 1,350	\$
Regulatory re-registration costs	10	34	--	18	
Patents & trade secrets	15-17	1,501	151	753	
Trademarks & trade names	17	868	52	210	
Other	5	457	28	101	
		\$ 7,748	\$ 332	\$ 2,432	\$

Amortization of identifiable intangible assets was approximately \$49 for the first three months of 2006. Assuming no change in the gross carrying value of identifiable intangible assets, the estimated amortization expense for the remainder of 2006 is \$506, approximately \$661 per annum for 2007 through 2009, \$651 in 2010 and \$643 in 2011. At March 31, 2006, there were no identifiable intangible assets with indefinite useful lives as defined by SFAS No. 142. Identifiable intangible assets are reflected in "Intangible assets with finite lives, net" in the Company's consolidated balance sheets.

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There were no changes to the useful lives of intangible assets subject to amortization during the three months ended March 31, 2006.

NOTE 8 - NET EARNINGS PER SHARE

The following presents a reconciliation of the net earnings and shares used in calculating basic and diluted net earnings per share:

	Net Earnings (Numerator)	Number of Shares (Denominator)	Per Am
Three months ended March 31, 2006			
Basic EPS - Net earnings and weighted average common shares outstanding	\$2,858	11,595,960	
Effect of dilutive securities - stock options		562,559	
Diluted EPS - Net earnings and weighted average common shares outstanding and effect of stock options	\$2,858	12,158,519	

	Net Earnings (Numerator)	Number of Shares (Denominator)	Per Am
Three months ended March 31, 2005			
Basic EPS - Net earnings and weighted average common shares outstanding	\$2,568	11,491,070	
Effect of dilutive securities - stock options		433,699	

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Diluted EPS - Net earnings and weighted average common
shares outstanding and effect of stock options \$2,568 11,924,769

The Company had stock options covering 329,050 and 76,965 shares at March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively, that could potentially dilute basic earnings per share in future periods that were not included in diluted earnings per share because their effect on the period presented was anti-dilutive.

NOTE 9 - SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Company's reportable segments are strategic businesses that offer products and services to different markets. Presently, the Company has three segments: specialty products, encapsulated / nutritional products and BCP Ingredients, its unencapsulated feed supplements segment.

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Business Segment Net Sales:

	Three Months Ended March 31	
	2006	2005
Specialty Products	\$ 7,951	\$ 7,133
Encapsulated/Nutritional Products	9,789	7,841
BCP Ingredients	6,857	4,366
Total	\$ 24,597	\$ 19,340

Business Segment Earnings:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2006	2005
Specialty Products	\$ 2,772	\$ 2,605
Encapsulated/Nutritional Products	1,039	877
BCP Ingredients	658	549
Interest and other income (expense)	(24)	38
Earnings before income taxes	\$ 4,445	\$ 4,069

NOTE 10- SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW INFORMATION

Cash paid during the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 for income taxes and interest is as follows:

Three months ended
March 31,
2006 2005

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Income taxes	\$	2	\$	13
Interest	\$	86	\$	2

NOTE 11- COMMON STOCK

On December 15, 2005, the Board of Directors of the Company approved a three-for-two split of the Company's common stock to be effected in the form of a stock dividend to shareholders of record on December 30, 2005. Such distribution was made on January 20, 2006. Accordingly, the stock split was recognized by reclassifying the par value of the additional shares resulting from the split, from additional paid-in capital to common stock. All references to number of common shares and per share amounts except shares authorized in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements were retroactively adjusted to reflect the effect of the stock split.

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In June 1999, the board of directors authorized the repurchase of shares of the Company's outstanding common stock over a two-year period commencing July 2, 1999. Under this program, which was subsequently extended, the Company had, as of December 31, 2004, repurchased a total 514,974 shares at an average cost of \$6.17 per share, none of which remain in treasury. In June 2005, the board of directors authorized another extension to the stock repurchase program for up to an additional 600,000 shares, that is, over and above those 514,974 shares previously repurchased under the program. Under this extension, a total of 66,300 shares have been purchased at an average cost of \$18.07, 42,675 of which remain in treasury at March 31, 2006. During the three months ended March 31, 2006, no additional shares have been purchased.

NOTE 12 - LONG TERM DEBT AND CREDIT AGREEMENTS

On February 6, 2006, the Company and its principal bank entered into a new Loan Agreement (the "New Loan Agreement") providing for an unsecured term loan of \$10,000 (the "Term Loan"), the proceeds of which were used to fund the CMC acquisition (the "Acquisition"), as described in note 2, in part. The remaining balance of the purchase price of the Acquisition was funded through Balchem's cash on hand. The Term Loan is payable in equal monthly installments of principal, together with accrued interest, and has a maturity date of March 1, 2009. The Term Loan is subject to an interest rate equal to LIBOR plus 1.00%. The Loan Agreement also provides for an unsecured short-term revolving credit facility of \$3,000 (the "New Revolving Facility"). Borrowings under the New Revolving Facility bear interest at LIBOR plus 1.00%. At March 31, 2006, this interest rate was 5.64%. No amounts have been drawn on the New Revolving Facility as of the date hereof. The New Revolving Facility expires in February, 2007. Management believes that such facility will be renewed in the normal course of business. During the quarter ended March 31, 2006, the Company repaid \$2,750 of principal under the New Loan Agreement.

NOTE 13 - EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

The Company sponsors a 401(k) savings and profit sharing plan for eligible employees. The plan allows participants to make pretax contributions and the Company matches certain percentages of those pretax contributions with shares of the Company's common stock. The profit sharing portion of the plan is discretionary and non-contributory. All amounts contributed to the plan are

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deposited into a trust fund administered by independent trustees.

The Company also currently provides postretirement benefits in the form of an unfunded retirement medical plan under a collective bargaining agreement covering eligible retired employees of its Verona, Missouri facility.

Net periodic benefit cost for such retirement medical plan for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and March 31, 2005 was as follows:

	2006	2005
Service Cost	\$ 8	\$ 8
Interest Cost	13	13
Expected return on plan assets	-	-
Amortization of transition obligation	-	-
Amortization of prior service cost	(5)	(3)
Amortization of (gain) or loss	1	-
Net periodic benefit cost	\$ 17	\$ 18

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The plan is unfunded and approved claims are paid from Company funds. Historical cash payments made under such plan approximated \$50 per year.

In December 2003, the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 ("the Act") was signed into law. The Act introduced a plan sponsor subsidy based on a percentage of a beneficiary's annual prescription drug benefits, within defined limits, and the opportunity for a retiree to obtain prescription drug benefits under Medicare. There is no impact of the subsidy on the postretirement benefit obligation and net periodic cost as Medicare eligible retirees are not covered under the Company's plan.

NOTE 14 - LICENSE AGREEMENT

On November 7, 2005, the Company entered into a license agreement (the "License Agreement") with Project Management and Development Co., Ltd. ("PMD"), a corporation organized under the laws of Great Britain. The License Agreement gives PMD the right to utilize the Company's proprietary continuous manufacturing technology for the production of aqueous choline chloride ("Company Technology") in connection with PMD's construction and operation of an aqueous choline chloride production facility at PMD's Al-JuBail, Saudi Arabia petrochemical facility, currently scheduled for completion in 2008.

The License Agreement provides PMD with the exclusive right to use Company Technology in certain countries, as well as the non-exclusive right to market, sell and use the products derived from Company Technology on a world-wide basis. The License Agreement further provides that the Company will be PMD's exclusive North American distributor for said products during the term of the agreement. The License Agreement terminates either 10 years from the start-up of the PMD's production facility or December 31, 2020, whichever is earlier. Pursuant to the License Agreement, PMD will pay the Company a license fee of \$1,400 and fees of \$840 for the delivery by the Company of certain preliminary drawings, specifications, process design documents containing Company Technology, and additional training. These fees are to be paid in installments upon achievement of certain performance milestones set forth in the License Agreement.

The Company will provide certain performance guarantees associated with Company

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Technology. In the event that the PMD manufacturing facility, if properly designed and constructed, fails to attain said performance guarantees, liquidated damages may be assessed, but not exceeding 70% of the license fee.

The Company is using the percentage of completion method to recognize revenue and expenses related to the License Agreement and the efforts-expended method for measuring the progress to completion. As of March 31, 2006, the Company has recognized \$395 of income and \$344 in expenses since the inception of the agreement. For the three months ended March 31, 2006, the Company has recognized \$237 of

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income and \$207 in expenses, which are included in net sales and cost of sales, respectively, in the BCP Ingredients segment.

NOTE 15 - NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In November 2004, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 151, "Inventory Costs." The new statement amends Accounting Research Bulletin No. 43, Chapter 4, "Inventory Pricing," to clarify the accounting for abnormal amounts of idle facility expense, freight, handling costs, and wasted material. This statement requires that those items be recognized as current period charges and requires that allocation of fixed production overheads to the cost of conversion be based on the normal capacity of the production facilities. This statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2005. The Company has adopted the provisions of this statement as of January 1, 2006 and does not expect this statement to have a material impact on its financial condition or results of operations.

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Item 2 - Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (All dollar amounts in thousands)

This Report contains forward-looking statements, within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which reflect the Company's expectation or belief concerning future events that involve risks and uncertainties. The actions and performance of the Company could differ materially from what is contemplated by the forward-looking statements contained in this Report. Factors that might cause differences from the forward-looking statements include those referred to or identified in Item 1 of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005 and other factors that may be identified elsewhere in this Report. Reference should be made to such factors and all forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by the above cautionary statements.

Overview

The Company develops, manufactures, distributes and markets specialty performance ingredients and products for the food, pharmaceutical, feed and medical sterilization industries. The Company's reportable segments are strategic businesses that offer products and services to different markets. The Company presently has three reportable segments: specialty products; encapsulated / nutritional products; and BCP Ingredients.

Specialty Products

Ethylene oxide, at the 100% level, is sold as a sterilant gas, primarily for use in the health care industry. It is used to sterilize a wide range of medical devices because of its versatility and effectiveness in treating hard or soft surfaces, composites, metals, tubing and different types of plastics without negatively impacting the performance or appearance of the device being sterilized. The Company's 100% ethylene oxide product is distributed by the Company in uniquely designed, recyclable double-walled stainless steel drums to assure compliance with safety, quality and environmental standards as outlined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (the "EPA") and the U.S. Department of Transportation. The Company's inventory of these specially built drums, along with the Company's three filling facilities, represent a significant capital investment. Contract sterilizers, medical device manufacturers, and medical gas distributors are the Company's principal customers for this product. As a fumigant, ethylene oxide blends and propylene oxide are highly effective in killing bacteria, fungi, and insects in spices and other seasoning materials. In addition, the Company also sells single use canisters with 100% ethylene oxide for use in medical device sterilization.

We sell two other products, propylene oxide and methyl chloride, principally to customers seeking smaller (as opposed to bulk) quantities whose requirements include timely delivery and safe handling. Propylene oxide is used for fumigation in spice treatment and in various chemical synthesis applications. It is also utilized in manufacturing operations to make paints more durable, and for manufacturing specialty starches and textile coatings. Methyl chloride is used as a raw material in specialty herbicides, fertilizers and pharmaceuticals, as well as in malt and wine preservers.

Our specialty products segment operates as ARC Specialty Products.

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Encapsulated / Nutritional Products

The encapsulated / nutritional products segment provides microencapsulation and agglomeration solutions to a variety of applications in food, pharmaceutical and nutritional ingredients to enhance performance of nutritional fortification, processing, mixing, packaging applications and shelf-life. Major product applications are baked goods, refrigerated and frozen dough systems, processed meats, seasoning blends, confections, nutritional supplements and animal nutrition. We also market human grade choline nutrient products through this industry segment for wellness applications. Choline is recognized to play a key role in the structural integrity of cell membranes, processing dietary fat, reproductive development and neural functions, such as memory and muscle function. Balchem's portfolio of granulated calcium carbonate products are primarily used in, or in conjunction with, novel over-the-counter and prescription pharmaceuticals for the treatment of osteoporosis, gastric disorders and calcium deficiencies in the United States.

In the animal health industries, Balchem markets REASHURE(R) Choline, an encapsulated choline product that boosts health and milk production in transition and early lactation cows. Commercial sales are currently derived from the dairy industry where REASHURE(R) delivers nutrient supplements that survive the rumen and are biologically available, providing required nutritional levels to dairy cows during certain weeks preceding and following calving, commonly referred to as the "transition period" of the animal. Also marketed in animal health is NITROSHURETM, an encapsulated urea supplement for lactating dairy cows that is designed to create a slow-release nitrogen source for the rumen, allowing for greater flexibility in feed rations for dairy nutritionists and

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producers, and NIASHURETM, our microencapsulated niacin product for dairy cows. In addition, CMC manufactures, sells and distributes chelated mineral supplements for use in animal feed industries throughout the world. CMC's proprietary chelation technology provides enhanced nutrient absorption for various species of domestic and companion animals.

BCP Ingredients

This segment manufactures and supplies choline chloride, an essential nutrient for animal health, predominantly to the poultry and swine industries. Choline plays a vital role in the metabolism of fat and the building and maintaining of cell structures. Choline deficiency can result in, among other symptoms, reduced growth and perosis in poultry, and fatty liver, kidney necrosis and general poor health condition in swine. In addition, certain derivatives of choline chloride are also manufactured and sold into industrial applications. Choline chloride is manufactured and sold in both an aqueous and dry form.

The Company sells products for all three segments through its own sales force, independent distributors, and sales agents.

The following tables summarize consolidated net sales by segment and business segment earnings for the three months ended March 31 (in thousands):

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Business Segment Net Sales:

	Three Months Ended March 31	
	2006	2005
Specialty Products	\$ 7,951	\$ 7,133
Encapsulated/Nutritional Products	9,789	7,841
BCP Ingredients	6,857	4,366
Total	\$ 24,597	\$ 19,340

Business Segment Earnings:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2006	2005
Specialty Products	\$ 2,772	\$ 2,605
Encapsulated/Nutritional Products	1,039	877
BCP Ingredients	658	549
Interest and other income (expense)	(24)	38
Earnings before income taxes	\$ 4,445	\$ 4,069

Effective January 1, 2006, we adopted the fair value method of accounting for stock-based compensation under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), Share Based Payments ("SFAS 123R"). SFAS 123R allows public companies to select from two alternative transition methods when adopting SFAS

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123R, the modified prospective application or the modified retrospective application. We have elected to adopt the provisions of SFAS 123R using the modified prospective application. Under the modified prospective application, the provisions of SFAS 123R are applied to new awards and awards modified, repurchased or cancelled after the effective date. Additionally, compensation cost for the unvested portion of awards outstanding as of January 1, 2006 shall be recognized as the requisite service is rendered after January 1, 2006. Share-based compensation expense of \$262 was recognized in the first quarter of 2006 for the unvested portion of awards outstanding as of January 1, 2006. We estimate that share-based compensation expense for 2006 will be approximately \$1,048.

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RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Three months ended March 31, 2006 compared to three months ended March 31, 2005

Net Sales

Net sales for the three months ended March 31, 2006 were \$24,597 compared with \$19,340 for the three months ended March 31, 2005, an increase of \$5,257 or 27.2%. Net sales for the specialty products segment were \$7,951 for the three months ended March 31, 2006 compared with \$7,133 for the three months ended March 31, 2005, an increase of \$818 or 11.5%. This increase was principally due to an increase in sales volume of ethylene oxide for medical device sterilization and propylene oxide for starch modification. Net sales for the encapsulated / nutritional products segment were \$9,789 for the three months ended March 31, 2006 compared with \$7,841 for the three months ended March 31, 2005, an increase of \$1,948 or 24.8%. This increase was due principally to increased volumes sold in the human choline market and approximately \$1,900 associated with the Company's new pharmaceutical, food, and chelated minerals business lines resulting from the Loders Croklaan asset and CMC stock acquisitions, as described in Notes 3 and 2, respectively. Net sales of \$6,857 were realized for the three months ended March 31, 2006 for the BCP Ingredients (unencapsulated feed supplements) segment, which markets choline for the poultry and swine industries as well as industrial choline derivative products, as compared with \$4,366 for the three months ended March 31, 2005, an increase of \$2,491 or 57.1%. This increase was due to increased volumes sold in the dry choline, aqueous choline, and specialty industrial product lines, along with modest price increases in all three product lines.

Gross Margin

Gross margin for the three months ended March 31, 2006 increased to \$8,222 compared to \$7,182 for the three months ended March 31, 2005, an increase of \$1,040 or 14.5%, due largely to the above-noted increase in sales. Gross margin percentage for the three months ended March 31, 2006 was 33.4% compared to 37.1% for the three months ended March 31, 2005. This decrease in gross margin percentage was primarily a result of product mix, higher raw material and fuel costs. Gross margin for the specialty products segment increased slightly as increased sales volume and sales prices were partially offset by increases in raw material prices and distribution costs. Gross margin in the encapsulated / nutritional products segment increased 23.3% as margins were favorably affected by product mix as well as sales volumes in the new product lines, as described above. Gross margin for BCP Ingredients increased 19.4% and were favorably affected by increased sales volumes of choline chloride and specialty derivative products.

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Operating Expenses

Operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2006 were \$3,753 compared to \$3,151 for the three months ended March 31, 2005, an increase of \$602 or 19.1%. This increase was primarily a result of increased payroll costs for new hires and expenses relating to the adoption of the provisions of SFAS No. 123R for stock-based compensation. Total operating expenses as a percentage of sales were 15.3% for the

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three months ended March 31, 2006 compared to 16.3% for the three months ended March 31, 2005. During the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, the Company spent \$526 and \$484, respectively, on research and development programs, substantially all of which pertained to the Company's encapsulated / nutritional products segment for both food and animal feed applications.

Earnings From Operations

As a result of the foregoing, earnings from operations for the three months ended March 31, 2006 were \$4,469 as compared to \$4,031 for the three months ended March 31, 2005.

Other expenses (income)

Interest income for the three months ended March 31, 2006 totaled \$62 as compared to \$40 for the three months ended March 31, 2005. This increase is attributable to the increase in the average total cash balance. Interest expense was \$86 for the three months ended March 31, 2006 compared to \$2 for the three months ended March 31, 2005. This increase is attributable to the increase in current and long-term debt resulting from the CMC acquisition on February 8, 2006.

Income Tax Expense

The Company's effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005 was 35.7% and 36.9%, respectively. This decrease in the effective tax rate is attributable to a change in allocation relating to state income taxes. This decrease was partially offset by the effect of recording the tax benefit associated with the incentive stock option component of stock compensation directly to equity, rather than in income tax expense, under SFAS 123R.

Net earnings

As a result of the foregoing, net earnings were \$2,858 for the three months ended March 31, 2006 as compared with \$2,568 for the three months ended March 31, 2005, an increase of 11.3%.

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FINANCIAL CONDITION

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Contractual Obligations

As part of the June 30, 2005 acquisition of certain assets relating to the encapsulation, agglomeration and granulation business of Loders Croklaan USA, LLC, the asset purchase agreement provides for the contingent payment by the Company of additional consideration based upon the volume of sales associated with one particular product acquired by the Company during the three year period following the acquisition. Such contingent consideration will be recorded as an additional cost of the acquired product lines. No such contingent consideration has been earned or paid as of March 31, 2006.

The Company's other contractual obligations and commitments principally include obligations associated with future minimum non-cancelable operating lease obligations (including for the headquarters office space entered into in 2002).

The Company knows of no current or pending demands on, or commitments for, its liquid assets that will materially affect its liquidity.

The Company expects its operations to continue generating sufficient cash flow to fund working capital requirements and necessary capital investments. The Company is actively pursuing additional acquisition candidates. The Company could seek additional bank loans or access to financial markets to fund such acquisitions, its operations, working capital, necessary capital investments or other cash requirements should it deem it necessary to do so.

Cash

Cash and cash equivalents decreased to \$6,346 at March 31, 2006 from \$12,996 at December 31, 2005. The \$6,650 decrease resulted primarily from an increase in net cash provided by operating activities and financing activities of \$4,199 and \$6,504, respectively, offset by net cash used in investing activities of \$17,353, principally for the acquisition of all of the outstanding capital stock of Chelated Minerals Corporation ("CMC") on February 8, 2006. Working capital amounted to \$18,978 at March 31, 2006 as compared to \$26,116 at December 31, 2005, a decrease of \$7,138.

Operating Activities

Cash flows from operating activities provided \$4,199 for the three months ended March 31, 2006 compared to \$3,548 for the three months ended March 31, 2005. The increase in cash flows from operating activities was primarily due to increases in net earnings, depreciation expense and current income taxes, and a decrease in accounts receivable. This increase was partially offset by decreases in accounts payable and accrued expenses as well as customer deposits and other deferred revenue.

Investing Activities

Capital expenditures were \$263 for the three months ended March 31, 2006 compared to \$377 for the three months ended March 31, 2005. Cash paid for the acquisition of all of the outstanding common stock of CMC, including acquisition costs, net of acquisition accounts receivable collected, was \$17,058.

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Financing Activities

In June 1999, the board of directors authorized the repurchase of shares of the Company's outstanding common stock over a two-year period commencing July 2, 1999. Under this program, which was subsequently extended, the Company had, as of December 31, 2004, repurchased a total 514,974 shares at an average cost of \$6.17 per share, none of which remain in treasury. In June 2005, the board of directors authorized another extension to the stock repurchase program for up to an additional 600,000 shares, that is, over and above those 514,974 shares previously repurchased under the program. Under this extension, a total of 66,300 shares have been purchased at an average cost of \$18.07, 42,675 of which remain in treasury at March 31, 2006. During the three months ended March 31, 2006, no additional shares have been purchased.

On February 6, 2006, the Company and its principal bank entered into a new Loan Agreement (the "New Loan Agreement") providing for an unsecured term loan of \$10,000 (the "Term Loan"), the proceeds of which were used to fund the CMC acquisition (the "Acquisition"), as described in note 2, in part. The remaining balance of the purchase price of the Acquisition was funded through Balchem's cash on hand. The Term Loan is payable in equal monthly installments of principal, together with accrued interest, and has a maturity date of March 1, 2009. The Term Loan is subject to an interest rate equal to LIBOR plus 1.00%. The Loan Agreement also provides for an unsecured short-term revolving credit facility of \$3,000 (the "New Revolving Facility"). Borrowings under the New Revolving Facility bear interest at LIBOR plus 1.00%. At March 31, 2006, this interest rate was 5.64%. No amounts have been drawn on the New Revolving Facility as of the date hereof. The New Revolving Facility expires in February, 2007. Management believes that such facility will be renewed in the normal course of business.

As of March 31, 2006, the Company made \$2,750 in principal payments against this term loan.

Proceeds from stock options exercised totaled \$206 and \$860 for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Dividend payments were \$1,045 and \$685 for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Pursuant to the Company's adoption of the provisions of SFAS No. 123R, the excess tax benefits of stock options exercised of \$96 for the three months ended March 31, 2006 is classified as a financing activity. These excess tax benefits had previously been classified as an operating activity.

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Other Matters Impacting Liquidity

The Company currently provides postretirement benefits in the form of a retirement medical plan under a collective bargaining agreement covering eligible retired employees of its Verona, Missouri facility. The amount recorded on the Company's balance sheet as of March 31, 2006 for this obligation is \$1,002. The postretirement plan is not funded. Historical cash payments made under such plan have approximated \$50 per year.

Critical Accounting Policies

Stock Options and Restricted Stock Awards

As discussed above, effective January 1, 2006, we account for stock-based

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compensation under SFAS 123R. Prior to January 1, 2006, we applied the intrinsic value method in measuring stock-based compensation under APB 25. Under SFAS 123R, share-based payment awards result in a cost measured at fair value on the awards' grant dates, based on the estimated number of awards expected to vest, and that cost is recognized through earnings over the expected vesting period. Under APB 25, when the exercise price of the Company's stock options equaled the market value of the underlying stock on the date of the grant, no compensation expense was recognized.

Other than the aforementioned adoption of SFAS 123R, there were no changes to the Company's Critical Accounting Policies, as described in its December 31, 2005 Annual Report on Form 10-K, during the three months ended March 31, 2006.

Related Party Transactions

The Company was not engaged in related party transactions during the three months ended March 31, 2006 and all transactions of the Company during such period were at arms length.

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Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

Cash and cash equivalents are invested primarily in money market accounts. Accordingly, we believe we have limited exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates. The Company has no derivative financial instruments or derivative commodity instruments, nor does the Company have any financial instruments entered into for trading or hedging purposes. Foreign sales are generally billed in U.S. dollars. As of March 31, 2006, the Company's only borrowings were under a bank term loan, which bears interest at LIBOR plus 1.00%. A 100 basis point increase in interest rates, applied to the Company's borrowings at March 31, 2006, would result in an increase in annual interest expense and a corresponding reduction in cash flow of approximately \$73. The Company believes that its business operations are not exposed in any material respect to market risk relating to foreign currency exchange risk or commodity price risk.

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Item 4. Controls and Procedures

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Pursuant to the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, the Company's management, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated, as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (including its internal controls and procedures), except for the disclosure controls and procedures of Chelated Minerals Corporation, which were excluded from management's evaluation. We completed the acquisition of this business on February 8, 2006, and are currently conducting an assessment of the business' disclosure controls and procedures. Based upon management's evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer have concluded that, as of the end of such period, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective in identifying the information required to be disclosed in the Company's periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange

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Commission ("SEC"), including this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, and ensuring that such information is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms.

(b) Changes in Internal Controls

During the most recent fiscal quarter, there has been no significant change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

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Part II. Other Information

Item 6. Exhibits

- Exhibit 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a).
- Exhibit 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a).
- Exhibit 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(b) and Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code.
- Exhibit 32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(b) and Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

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.

BALCHEM CORPORATION

By: /s/ Dino A. Rossi

Dino A. Rossi, President and
Chief Executive Officer

Date: May 10, 2006

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Exhibit Index

Exhibit No.	Description
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- Exhibit 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a).
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