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: April 20, 2012
(Date of earliest event reported)

KIMBERLY-CLARK CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| Delaware | $\mathbf{1 - 2 2 5}$ | $\mathbf{3 9 - 0 3 9 4 2 3 0}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (State or other jurisdiction |  |  |
| of incorporation) | (Commission File | Number) |


| P.O. Box 619100, Dallas, Texas | 75261-9100 |
| :--- | :---: |
| (Address of principal executive offices) | (Zip Code) |

(972) 281-1200
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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))

Attached and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit 99.1 is a copy of the press release of Kimberly-Clark Corporation (the "Corporation"), dated April 20, 2012, reporting the Corporation's results of operations for the quarter ended March 31, 2012.

The information, including exhibits attached hereto, in Item 2.02 of this Current Report is being furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section. The information in Item 2.02 of this Current Report shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, except as otherwise expressly stated in such filing.
Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.
(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No. 99.1. Press release issued by Kimberly-Clark Corporation on April 20, 2012.

## SIGNATURE

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.

KIMBERLY-CLARK CORPORATION

## Date: April 20, 2012

By: /s/ Mark A. Buthman
Mark A. Buthman
Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

## KIMBERLY-CLARK ANNOUNCES FIRST QUARTER 2012 RESULTS

DALLAS, April 20, 2012—Kimberly-Clark Corporation (NYSE: KMB) today reported first quarter 2012 results and reconfirmed its previous guidance for full-year 2012 adjusted earnings per share.

## Executive Summary

 increase in K-C International.

- Diluted net income per share for the quarter was $\$ 1.18$ compared with $\$ 0.86$ in the year-ago period.
- First quarter adjusted earnings per share were $\$ 1.24$ in 2012, up 14 percent compared to $\$ 1.09$ in the prior year. Adjusted earnings per share in both periods exclude costs for pulp and tissue restructuring actions. In addition, adjusted earnings per share in 2011 exclude a business tax charge related to a law change in Colombia.
- The improvement in adjusted earnings per share was driven by organic sales growth, cost savings and a lower share count, partially offset by increased marketing, research and general spending.
- Adjusted earnings per share in 2012 are anticipated to be $\$ 5.00$ to $\$ 5.15$, consistent with the company's previous expectations. Adjusted earnings per share exclude costs for pulp and tissue restructuring actions.


 all, I'm encouraged by our progress in the first quarter."


 have us well-positioned to deliver on our targets for the year and generate strong returns to shareholders."


## First Quarter 2012 Operating Results


 additional 1 percent.

 restructuring and a $\$ 32$ million non-deductible charge due to a legislative change in the assessment of a business tax in Colombia.



 expense, net was $\$ 8$ million of expense in the first quarter of 2012 compared to $\$ 2$ million of income in the prior year.

The company's effective tax rate for the first quarter of 2012 was 29.2 percent compared to 31.4 percent in the year-ago period. The adjusted effective tax rate, which excludes the previously mentioned items
 rate for full-year 2012 will be between 30 and 32 percent.

Kimberly-Clark's share of net income of equity companies in the first quarter of 2012 was $\$ 39$ million compared to $\$ 40$ million in 2011. The year-ago results included a $\$ 3$ million charge as a result of a non-
 mid-single digits in the first quarter of 2012, while earnings were down, driven by a decline in the value of the Mexican peso.

## Cash Flow and Balance Sheet

 cash earnings. First quarter pension contributions totaled \$45 million in 2012 and \$265 million in 2011

 billion. Total debt and redeemable securities was $\$ 6.9$ billion at March 31, 2012 compared with $\$ 6.7$ billion at the end of 2011.

## First Quarter 2012 Business Segment Results

## Personal Care Segmen





 were up low-single digits.

Sales in Europe increased 4 percent, despite an unfavorable currency impact of about 3 percent. Sales volumes rose 11 percent, with growth in child care, Huggies diapers and baby wipes, and non-branded offerings. Overall net selling prices fell approximately 5 percent, primarily due to increased promotional activity in the diaper category.

Sales increased about 17 percent in K-C International, which included an approximate 2 point drag from changes in currency rates. Sales volumes were up 12 percent, with double-digit growth in each major
 Venezuela and Vietnam. Overall net selling prices improved about 6 percent compared to the year-ago period, driven by increases in Latin America.

## Consumer Tissue Segment

First quarter sales of $\$ 1.7$ billion decreased 1 percent. Lost sales in conjunction with pulp and tissue restructuring actions reduced sales volumes by 3 percent, organic sales volumes fell 2 percent and changes in currency rates decreased sales 1 percent. On the other hand, net selling prices increased 4 percent and improved product mix benefited sales by 1 percent. First quarter operating profit of $\$ 217$ million increased 45 percent. The improvement was driven by benefits from selling price increases, input cost deflation and cost savings, partially offset by decreased sales volumes and higher marketing, research and general expenses.

Sales in North America were even with the prior year, despite a 4 point negative impact from lost sales in conjunction with pulp and tissue restructuring actions. Net selling prices rose 6 percent, while organic sales volumes decreased 2 percent. Bathroom tissue sales increased at a solid rate, as higher selling prices more than offset a low-single digit decline in sales volumes. Kleenex facial tissue sales were even with yearago, as higher selling prices and improved product mix were offset by lower volumes, which were impacted by a weak cold and flu season and sheet count reductions. Paper towel sales and volumes rose at a doubledigit rate and benefited from improved distribution levels.

Sales in Europe decreased 5 percent, including an unfavorable currency impact of 2 percent. Sales volumes fell 2 percent and changes in product mix reduced sales by 1 percent, as economic conditions remain difficult.

Sales increased about 1 percent in K-C International. Net selling prices improved 4 percent and product mix advanced 3 percent, reflecting the company's strategies to improve net realized revenue and profitability. On the other hand, organic sales volumes fell 3 percent, lost sales in conjunction with pulp and tissue restructuring actions reduced sales volumes about 2 percent and currency rates were unfavorable by approximately 2 percent.

## K-C Professional (KCP) \& Other Segment

First quarter sales of $\$ 0.8$ billion increased 4 percent. Organic sales volumes rose 3 percent, net selling prices improved 2 percent and changes in product mix were favorable by 1 percent. Meanwhile, lost sales in conjunction with pulp and tissue restructuring actions reduced sales volumes by 1 percent and currency rates were unfavorable by 1 percent. First quarter operating profit of $\$ 125$ million increased 20 percent. The improvement was driven by benefits from sales growth and cost savings, partially offset by higher marketing, research and general expenses.

Sales in North America rose 4 percent. Increased sales volumes, higher net selling prices and changes in product mix each improved sales by approximately 1 percent. The volume gain was driven by increased washroom product volumes, reflecting some improvement in market demand and benefits from innovation and selling initiatives.

Sales in Europe decreased 4 percent. Lost sales in conjunction with pulp and tissue restructuring actions reduced sales volumes 5 percent and changes in currency rates decreased sales 2 percent. On the other hand, higher organic sales volumes, improved selling prices and favorable product mix each contributed 1 point of sales growth.

Sales increased 9 percent in K-C International. Sales volumes were up 7 percent, with particular strength in Latin America, and net selling prices rose 3 percent, while currency rates reduced sales 1 percent. Health Care Segment

First quarter sales of $\$ 0.4$ billion increased 4 percent. Sales volumes rose about 4 percent and net selling prices advanced approximately 1 percent. First quarter operating profit of $\$ 53$ million increased 6 percent. The improvement was driven by benefits from sales growth and lower marketing, research and general expenses.

Medical supply volumes rose at a mid-single digit rate, led by growth in exam gloves and surgical products. Medical device volumes increased low-single digits, with solid growth in airway management products.

## Pulp and Tissue Restructuring Actions




 operating profit will increase by at least $\$ 75$ million in 2013 and at least $\$ 100$ million in 2014. These estimates are unchanged from the projections announced in January 2012.
 from restructuring actions were $\$ 5$ million, bringing cumulative benefits to $\$ 25$ million.

## 2012 Outlook

 its input cost assumptions, as described below.

- The company continues to expect that the impact of changes in key commodity cost inputs will be in a range of $\$ 50$ million of deflation to $\$ 50$ million of inflation.
- Overall pulp costs are expected to be somewhat lower than previously expected. While eucalyptus pulp costs are generally tracking in line with previous expectations, the company has reduced its assumption for full-year average market pricing for benchmark northern softwood pulp to $\$ 915$ to $\$ 930$ per metric ton (previous assumption $\$ 940$ to $\$ 960$ per metric ton).
 assumption to $\$ 100$ to $\$ 110$ per barrel (previous assumption $\$ 95$ to $\$ 105$ per barrel).


## Non-GAAP Financial Measures

 therefore referred to as non-GAAP financial measures.

- Adjusted earnings and earnings per share
- Adjusted gross and operating profit
- Adjusted effective tax rate

These non-GAAP financial measures exclude the following items:

- Pulp and tissue restructuring charges. In January 2011, the company initiated a pulp and tissue restructuring to exit its remaining integrated pulp manufacturing operations and improve the underlying profitability and return on invested capital of its consumer tissue and K-C Professional businesses. In addition, in January of 2012, the company decided to streamline an additional facility in North America
 calculation of the company's earnings and earnings per share, gross and operating profit and effective tax rate, calculated in accordance with GAAP, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and March 31 , 2011 and the estimated full year earnings per share and estimated effective tax rate for 2012.
 manner in which certain business taxes in that country are assessed. This assessment covers the period from 2011 through 2014 and impacted results for both our consolidated operations and our equity company in Colombia. This item was excluded from the calculation of the company's earnings and earnings per share, operating profit and effective tax rate, calculated in accordance with GAAP, for the three months ended March 31, 2011.

In accordance with the SEC's requirements, reconciliations of the non-GAAP financial measures to the comparable GAAP financial measures are attached.

The company provides these non-GAAP financial measures as supplemental information to our GAAP financial measures. Management and the company's Board of Directors use adjusted earnings, adjusted

 ongoing business operations.

 sales determined by excluding certain of the charges that are used in calculating these non-GAAP financial measures.


 follow our company focus on and publish both historical results and future projections based on non-GAAP financial measures. We believe that it is in the best interests of our investors for us to provide this information to analysts so that those analysts accurately report the non-GAAP financial information.


 The non-GAAP financial measures should be read only in conjunction with the company's consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP.

## Conference Call


 clark.com).

## About Kimberly-Clark

 they provide to enhance their health, hygiene and well-being. With brands such as Kleenex, Scott, Huggies, Pull-Ups, Kotex and Depend, Kimberly-Clark holds No. 1 or No. 2 share positions in more than 80 countries. To keep up with the latest K-C news and to learn more about the company's 140 year history of innovation, visit www.kimberly-clark.com.

Copies of Kimberly-Clark's Annual Report to Stockholders and its proxy statements and other SEC filings, including Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, are made available free of charge on the company's Web site on the same day they are filed with the SEC. To view these filings, visit the Investors section of the company's Web site.




 the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 entitled "Risk Factors."

|  | Three Months Ended March 31 |  |  |  | Change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2012 |  | 2011 |  |  |
| Net Sales | \$ | 5,241 | \$ | 5,029 | +4.2 \% |
| Cost of products sold |  | 3,537 |  | 3,566 | -0.8\% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gross Profit |  | 1,704 |  | 1,463 | +16.5 \% |
| Marketing, research and general expenses |  | 996 |  | 921 | +8.1 \% |
| Other (income) and expense, net |  | 8 |  | (2) | N.M. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Operating Profit |  | 700 |  | 544 | +28.7 \% |
| Interest income |  | 4 |  | 4 | - |
| Interest expense |  | (71) |  | (64) | +10.9 \% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Income Before Income Taxes and Equity Interests |  | 633 |  | 484 | +30.8 \% |
| Provision for income taxes |  | (185) |  | (152) | +21.7 \% |
| Income Before Equity Interests |  | 448 |  | 332 | +34.9 \% |
| Share of net income of equity companies |  | 39 |  | 40 | -2.5 \% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net Income |  | 487 |  | 372 | +30.9 \% |
| Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests |  | (19) |  | (22) | -13.6 \% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net Income Attributable to Kimberly-Clark Corporation | \$ | 468 | \$ | 350 | +33.7 \% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Per Share Basis - Diluted Net Income Attributable to Kimberly-Clark Corporation | \$ | 1.18 | \$ | 0.86 | +37.2 \% |

KIMBERLY-CLARK CORPORATION PERIODS ENDED MARCH 31
(Millions of dollars, except per share amounts)

Notes:

1. Charges for the pulp and tissue restructuring actions and a non-deductible business tax charge related to a law change in Colombia are included in the Consolidated Income Statement as follows:

|  | Three Months Ended March 31, 2012 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |
| Cost of products sold | \$ | 35 |
| Provision for income taxes |  | (11) |
| Net Income Attributable to Kimberly-Clark Corporation | \$ | 24 |


|  | Three Months Ended March 31, 2011 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Restructuring Charges |  | Business Tax Charge |  | Total |  |
| Cost of products sold | \$ | 82 | \$ | - | \$ | 82 |
| Marketing, research and general expenses |  | - |  | 32 |  | 32 |
| Provision for income taxes |  | (25) |  | - |  | (25) |
| Share of net income of equity companies |  | - |  | 3 |  | 3 |
| Net Income Attributable to Kimberly-Clark Corporation | \$ | 57 | \$ | 35 | \$ | 92 |

2. Other Information:



## Unaudited

## Description of Business Segments






The principal sources of revenue in each global business segment are described below:
 training and youth pants, swimpants, baby wipes, feminine and incontinence care products, and other related products. Products in this segment are sold under the Huggies, Pull-Ups, Little Swimmers, GoodNites, Kotex, Lightdays, Depend, Poise and other brand names.

- Consumer Tissue offers a wide variety of innovative solutions and trusted brands that touch and improve people's lives every day. Products in this segment include facial and bathroom tissue, paper towels, napkins and related products, and are sold under the Kleenex, Scott, Cottonelle, Viva, Andrex, Scottex, Hakle, Page and other brand names.
 tissues, and towels. Key brands in this segment include: Kleenex, Scott, WypAll, Kimtech, and Jackson Safety.
- Health Care provides the essentials that help restore patients to better health and improve the quality of patients' lives. Through a portfolio of innovative medical device and infection prevention products, Health Care offers clinicians a range of solutions in pain management, respiratory and digestive health and medical supplies for the operating room. This business is a global leader in education to prevent healthcare-associated infections. Products are sold primarily under the Kimberly-Clark and ON-Q brand names.

 includes a non-deductible business tax charge of $\$ 32$ million related to a law change in Colombia.


## N.M. - Not meaningful

Unaudited

PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN NET SALES VERSUS PRIOR YEAR

${ }^{(1)}$ Lost volume related to the pulp and tissue restructuring actions. ${ }^{(2)}$ Mix/Other includes rounding.

KIMBERLY-CLARK CORPORATION PERIODS ENDED MARCH 31
(Millions of dollars, except per share amounts)

## NON-GAAP RECONCILIATION SCHEDULES

The tables below and on the following pages present the reconciliation of non-GAAP financial measures to GAAP financial measures.
EARNINGS SUMMARY:

|  | Three Months Ended March 31 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2012 |  |  |  | 2011 |  |  |  |
|  | Income (Expense) |  | Diluted <br> Earnings Per Share |  | Income (Expense) |  | Diluted Earnings Per Share |  |
| Adjusted Earnings | \$ | 492 | \$ | 1.24 | \$ | 442 | \$ | 1.09 |
| Adjustment for charges related to the pulp and tissue restructuring actions |  | (24) |  | (0.06) |  | (57) |  | (0.14) |
| Adjustment for non-deductible business tax charge related to law change in Colombia |  | - |  | - |  | (35) |  | (0.09) |
| Net Income Attributable to Kimberly-Clark Corporation | \$ | 468 | \$ | 1.18 | \$ | 350 | \$ | 0.86 |

OPERATING PROFIT SUMMARY:


## Unaudited

## EFFECTIVE INCOME TAX RATE RECONCILIATION:



## OUTLOOK FOR 2012

ESTIMATED FULL YEAR 2012 DILUTED EARNINGS PER SHARE:

| Adjusted Earnings Per Share | \$ | 5.00 | - | \$ | 5.15 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Adjustment for charges related to the pulp and tissue restructuring actions |  | (0.33) | - |  | (0.24) |
| Per Share Basis - Diluted Net Income Attributable to Kimberly-Clark Corporation | \$ | 4.67 | - | \$ | 4.91 |

