FORM 10-Q

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549
[X] QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR $15(d)$ OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 1996

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: 0-11676
BEL FUSE INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| New Jersey | $22-1463699$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| (State or other jurisdiction of | (I.R.S. Employer |
| incorporation or organization) | Identification No.) |

198 Van Vorst Street
Jersey City, New Jersey 07302
(Address of principal executive offices)
(Zip Code)
201-432-0463
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)
(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or $15(\mathrm{~d})$ 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 such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

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Yes X
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No
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Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

At November 1, 1996, there were $5,070,195$ shares of Common Stock, $\$ .10$ par value, outstanding.

BEL FUSE INC.

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PART I. Financial Information
Item 1. Financial Statements
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Certain information and footnote disclosures required under generally accepted accounting principles have been condensed or omitted from the following consolidated financial statements pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. It is suggested that the following consolidated financial statements be read in conjunction with the year-end consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1995.

The results of operations for the nine month period ended September 30, 1996, are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the entire fiscal year or for any other period.
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BEL FUSE INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

ASSETS

| Current Assets: <br> Cash and cash equivalents | \$21,373,843 | 8,343,925 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Marketable securities | 2,002,036 | 5,556,740 |
| Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of $\$ 155,000$ | 9,781,200 | 11,705,344 |
| Inventories | 8,585,970 | 10,799,731 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 492,360 | 239,511 |
| Total Current Assets | 42,235,409 | 36,645,251 |
| Property, plant and equipment - net | 26,188,294 | 26,662,351 |
| Other assets | 1,035,954 | 1,168,072 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$69,459,657 | \$64,475,674 |

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

|  | BEL FUSE INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS |  |

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$$

BEL FUSE INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

|  | Nine Months Ended |  | Three Months Ended |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | September 30, |  | September 30, |  |
|  | 1996 | 1995 | 1996 | 1995 |
| Sales | \$47,832,403 | \$51,527,885 | \$14,426,471 | \$17,567,632 |
| Costs and Expenses: |  |  |  |  |
| Cost of sales | 33,984,034 | 37,617,231 | 10,620,540 | 12,589,829 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 8,472,248 | 9,047,109 | 2,772,584 | 3,276,672 |
|  | 42,456,282 | 46,664,340 | 13,393,124 | 15,866,501 |
| Income from operations | 5,376,121 | 4,863,545 | 1,033,347 | 1,701,131 |
| Other income - net | 1,691,570 | 847,311 | 237,942 | 732,307 |
| Interest (expense) | $(1,573)$ | $(3,849)$ | (353) | (738) |


Cash and Cash Equivalents -
end of period
See notes to consolidated financial statements.

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BEL FUSE INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Continued)

|  | Nine Months Ended |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | September 30, |  |  |
|  |  | 1996 | 1995 |
| Changes in operating assets and |  |  |  |
| liabilities consist of: |  |  |  |
| Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable |  | 1,924,144 | \$ (3, 392, 210 ) |
| Decrease (increase) in inventories |  | 1,763,761 | $(2,003,587)$ |
| (Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses and other current assets |  | $(314,599)$ | 606,321 |
| Decrease in other assets |  | 115,944 | 85,553 |
| Increase (decrease) in accounts payable |  | $(1,305,820)$ | 486,234 |
| Increase in accrued expenses |  | 733,313 | 1,717,672 |
| Increase in income taxes payable |  | 470,410 | 280,993 |
|  |  | 3,387,153 | \$ (2, 219, 024 ) |

Supplementary information:
Cash paid during the period for:

Interest

Income taxes

Supplemental disclosures of non-cash activities:

Unrealized gains (losses) on marketable securities

Investment advisory fee

| \$ | 1,573 | \$ | 3,849 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \$ | 778,775 | \$ | 33,000 |


| $\$$ | $(457,600)$ | $\$ 1,300,188$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $===========$ | $=========$ |  |
| $\$$ | - | $\$$ |
| $\$$ | 322,000 |  |

$=========$

See notes to consolidated financial statements.
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BEL FUSE INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(unaudited)

1. The consolidated balance sheet as of September 30, 1996, and the consolidated statements of operations and cash flows for the nine months ended September 30 , 1996 and 1995 have been prepared by the Company and are unaudited. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting solely of normal recurring adjustments) necessary to present fairly the financial position, results of operations and cash flows for all periods presented have been made. Certain items in the September 30,1995 financial statements have been reclassified to conform to September 30, 1996 classifications. The information for December 31, 1995 was derived from audited financial statements.
2. Earnings Per Share - Earnings per common share are computed using the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. The dilutive effect of outstanding options at September 30,1996 and 1995 was not material.
3. In October 1995, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation", which is effective for the Company beginning January 1, 1996. SFAS No. 123 requires expanded disclosures of stock-based compensation arrangements with employees in Notes to Annual Financial Statements and encourages (but does not require) compensation cost to be measured based on the fair value of the equity instrument awarded. Companies are permitted, however, to continue to apply APB Opinion No. 25 , which recognizes compensation cost based on the intrinsic value of the equity instrument awarded. The Company will continue to apply APB Opinion No. 25 to its stock based compensation awards to employees and will disclose the required pro forma effect on net income and earnings per share in notes to its annual financial statements.
4. Inventories consist of the following:


## 6. INCOME TAXES

Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes" (SFAS 109), provides for the recognition of deferred assets subject to a valuation allowance. At December 31, 1994, the Company established a valuation allowance equal to the full amount of the tax effect of the net operating loss carryforward. For the nine months ended September 30, 1995, the Company recognized $\$ 286,000$, as a reduction of United States and Far East tax expense.
of Operations

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a. Results of Operations
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The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the percentage relationship to net sales of certain items included in the Company's consolidated statements of operations.

|  | Percentage of Net Sales |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | ```Nine Months Ended September 30, 1996 1995``` |  | ```Three Months Ended September 30, 1996 1995``` |  |
| Net sales | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | $100.0 \%$ |
| Cost of sales | 71.0 | 73.0 | 73.6 | 71.7 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 17.7 | 17.5 | 19.2 | 18.7 |
| Other income, net of interest expense | 3.5 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 4.2 |
| Earnings before income tax provision | 14.8 | 11.1 | 8.8 | 13.8 |
| Income tax provision | 3.0 | 1.5 | . 3 | 2.6 |
| Net earnings | 11.8 | 9.6 | 8.5 | 11.2 |

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the percentage increase or decrease of such items included in the Company's consolidated statements of operations.


Nine Months 1996 vs. Nine Months 1995


Sales
-----

Net sales decreased $7.2 \%$ from $\$ 51,527,885$ during the first nine months of 1995 to $\$ 47,832,403$ during the first nine months of 1996 . The Company attributes this decrease primarily to a general softening in the market as previously disclosed and the elimination of certain low margin products.

Cost of Sales
------------

Cost of sales as a percentage of net sales decreased $2.0 \%$ from $73.0 \%$
during the first nine months of 1995 to $71.0 \%$ during the first nine months of 1996. The decrease in the cost of sales percentage is primarily attributable to lower material content associated with the current sales mix and the elimination of certain low margin products.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

The percentage relationship of selling, general and administrative expenses to net sales remained relatively constant for the first nine months of 1996 compared to the first nine months of 1995. Selling, general and administrative expenses decreased in dollar amount by 6.4\%. The Company attributes the decrease in the dollar amount of such expenses primarily to accrued severance and bonus amounts, the write-off of certain expenses related to the unrealized acquisition of Pulse Engineering, Inc. and the abandonment of certain fixed assets during the first nine months of 1995 along with the Company's continued cost containment measures during the first nine months of 1996.

Other Income and Expenses

Other income, consisting of net realized gains on the sale of marketable securities and interest and dividends earned on marketable securities and on cash equivalents, increased by $\$ 844,259$ from the first nine months of 1996 compared to the first nine months of 1995. This increase is primarily due to the gain on the sale of 112,485 shares of Technitrol, Inc. common stock and to higher earnings on invested funds due to higher average balances in the first nine months of 1996 compared to the first nine months of 1995 , offset in part by a loss on other marketable securities.

Provision for Income Taxes
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The provision for income taxes for the first nine months of 1996 was $\$ 1,415,000$ as compared to $\$ 757,000$ for the first nine months of 1995 . This increase is due primarily to the higher pretax earnings, including the gain on the sale of the Technitrol, Inc. common stock, for the first nine months of 1996 versus 1995. The 1995 provision for income taxes was reduced by the use of a net operating loss carry-forward which was no longer available in 1996.

The Company's effective tax rate has been lower than the statutory United States corporate rate primarily as a result of the lower tax rates in the far East and the utilization of tax benefits arising from the operating loss carryforward in the United States and the Far East.

Three Months 1996 vs. Three Months 1995


Sales

Sales decreased $17.9 \%$ to $\$ 14,426,471$ during the third quarter of 1996 from $\$ 17,567,632$ during the third quarter of 1995. The Company attributes this decrease primarily to those reasons set forth in the nine month analysis.

Cost of Sales
-------------

Cost of sales as a percentage of net sales increased $1.9 \%$ to $73.6 \%$ during the third quarter of 1996 from $71.7 \%$ during the third quarter of 1995 . The Company attributes this increase primarily to the higher percentage relationship of labor and overheads to sales due to decreased sales, despite lower actual expenditures in these areas during the third quarter of 1996 vs. 1995 offset in part by lower material costs during the third quarter of 1996 vs. 1995 due to the reasons set forth in the nine month analysis.

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Selling, General and Administrative Expenses
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The percentage relationship of selling, general and administrative expenses to net sales increased.5\% from the third quarter of 1995 to the third quarter of 1996 and selling, general and administrative expenses decreased in dollar amount by $15.4 \%$. The Company attributes the increase in selling, general and administrative expenses to net sales primarily to lower sales and the decrease in dollar amount of selling, general and administrative expenses primarily to accrued severences and bonus amounts and the write-off of certain expenses related to the unrealized acquisition of Pulse Engineering, Inc. during
the third quarter of 1995.

Other Income and Expenses

Other income for the third quarter of 1996 compared to the third quarter of 1995 decreased due to a gain of approximately $\$ 650,000$ on the partial liquidation of the Company's investment in Pulse Engineering, Inc. common stock during the third quarter of 1995, offset in part by higher earnings on invested funds due to higher average balances during the third quarter of 1996.

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Provision for Income Taxes
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The provision for income taxes decreased to $\$ 39,000$ for the third quarter 1996 from $\$ 453,000$ for the third quarter of 1995 primarily due to certain tax benefits arising from the write-off of the Company's investment in its foreign subsidiary, Bel Fuse SARL, (France), reduced pre-tax earnings and tax overaccruals from 1995 recognized during the third quarter of 1996.

Liquidity and Capital Resources
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Historically, the Company has financed its capital expenditures through operating cash flows. Management believes that the cash flow from operations, combined with its existing capital base and the Company's available lines of credit, will be sufficient to fund its operations for the near term.
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Liquidity and Capital Resources (Continued)
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The Company has lines of credit, all of which were unused at September 30, 1996, in the aggregate amount of $\$ 7,000,000$, of which $\$ 5,000,000$ is from domestic banks and $\$ 2,000,000$ is from foreign banks.

During the first nine months of 1996, the Company's cash increased by $\$ 13.0$ million, principally reflecting $\$ 10.2$ million provided by operating activities and $\$ 6.3$ million from the sale of marketable securities offset in part by $\$ 2.0$ million in purchases of marketable securities and $\$ 1.7$ million in purchases of plant and equipment.

The Company has historically followed a policy of reinvesting the earnings of foreign subsidiaries in the Far East. If the unrepatriated funds were distributed to the parent corporation, such funds would be subject to United States federal income taxes. No funds were repatriated during the first nine months of 1996 or 1995.

The Company's shareholders' equity increased by $\$ 5.4$ million from December 31, 1995 to September 30, 1996, reflecting the Company's first nine months profit of $\$ 5.7$ million and the exercise of incentive stock options of $\$ 122,000$ offset by a decrease of $\$ 457,000$ in net unrealized gain on marketable securities as all gains and losses were realized during the second quarter of 1996.

Cash, accounts receivable and marketable securities comprised approximately $47.7 \%$ and $39.7 \%$ of the Company's total assets at September 30, 1996 and December 31, 1995, respectively. The Company's current ratio (i.e., the ratio of current assets to current liabilities) was 5.4 to 1 and 4.6 to 1 at September 30, 1996 and December 31, 1995, respectively.

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PART II. Other Information
Item 1. Legal Proceedings

See Item 3 of the Company's Form $10-\mathrm{K}$ for the year ended December 31, 1995.

Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K
(a) Exhibits: Exhibit 27.1 Financial Data Schedule.
(b) There were no Current Reports on Form 8-K filed by the registrant during the quarter ended September 30, 1996.
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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.

BEL FUSE INC.

By:/s/ Daniel Bernstein
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Daniel Bernstein, President
(Principal Financial and
Accounting Officer)
Dated: November 12, 1996
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<LEGEND>
THIS SCHEDULE CONTAINS SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION EXTRACTED FROM BEL FUSE
INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT SEPTEMBER 30, 1996 AND THE NINE MONTHS THEN ENDED AND IS QUALIFIED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY REFERENCE TO SUCH FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.
</LEGEND>
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| :--- | :--- |
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| <CASH> | $21,373,843$ |
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| <COMMON> | 0 |
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| <EPS-PRIMARY> | 0 |
| <EPS-DILUTED> | 0 |

