

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON D.C. 20549

FORM S-8
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

KENNAMETAL INC.

Pennsylvania
(State or jurisdiction of
Incorporation or organization)

25-0900168
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

Route 981 at Westmoreland County Airport
P.O. Box 231
Latrobe, Pennsylvania 15650
(Address of principal executive offices)

KENNAMETAL
THRIFT PLAN
(Full title of the plan)

David T. Cofer, Vice President, Secretary
and General Counsel
Kennametal Inc.
Route 981 at Westmoreland County Airport
P.O. Box 231
Latrobe, Pennsylvania 15650
(Name and address of agent for service)
412-539-5206
(Telephone number of agent for service)
Copies of communications to:
Ronald Basso, Esquire
Buchanan Ingersoll Professional Corporation
One Oxford Centre
301 Grant Street, 20th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1410
412-562-3943

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Securities To Be Registered	Amount to Be Registered(1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share(2)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(2)	Amount of Registration Fee(2)
Capital Stock (par value \$1.25 per share)	1,000,000	\$35.4375	\$35,437,500	\$10,739

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement also covers an indeterminate amount of interests to be offered or sold pursuant to the employee benefit plan described herein.
- (2) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(h). Such price, which is the average of the high and low sales prices for the Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange, as reported in The Wall Street Journal, Midwest Edition, on December 17, 1996, has been determined in accordance with Rule 457(c).

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

This Registration Statement relates to the Kennametal Thrift Plan (the "Plan"). Kennametal Inc. (the "Corporation" or the "Registrant") is incorporated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference

The Corporation hereby incorporates by reference into this Registration Statement the documents listed in (a) through (d) below. The Corporation also incorporates by reference, from the date of filing of such documents, all documents subsequently filed by it pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Securities Exchange Act"), prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold:

(a) The latest annual report of the Corporation filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) under the Securities Act;

(b) All other reports filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act since the end of the fiscal year covered by the annual report referred to in (a) above;

(c) The description of the Capital Stock of the Corporation contained in the Corporation's registration statement filed under Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act, including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description; and

(d) The Kennametal Thrift Plan Annual Report on Form 11-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1996, which is being filed concurrent with this Registration Statement.

Item 4. Description of Securities

Not Applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel

Not Applicable.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Pennsylvania statutory law regarding directors and officers insurance and indemnification is embodied in Subchapter D (Sections 1741 through 1750) of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988, as amended (the "BCL"). Section 1741 (relating to third party actions) and 1742 (relating to derivative actions) of the BCL provide that, unless otherwise restricted by its bylaws, a business corporation shall have the power to indemnify any person who is made a party to a third-party or derivative action, respectively, by reason that such person is or was a representative of the corporation. The BCL defines representative to mean a director, officer, employee or agent thereof (a "Representative"). The sections further state that the corporation is authorized to indemnify the Representative against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with the action. However, the Representative must have acted in good faith and with a reasonable belief that his or her actions were in the best interests, or not opposed to the best interests, of the corporation; and with respect to any criminal proceeding, the Representative must have had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful.

Section 1743 of the BCL provides mandatory indemnification for a Representative if he or she succeeds on the merits or otherwise in the defense of any claim or action. The corporation must indemnify him or her to the extent of his or her actual and reasonable expenses (including attorney's fees) in connection with the claim or action.

Section 1746(a) states that the statutory rights of indemnification shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which a person might be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, or otherwise. However, 1746(b) forbids indemnification to be made in any case where the act or failure to act giving rise to the claim is determined by a court to be willful misconduct or recklessness. A corporation may not provide indemnification in the case of willful misconduct or recklessness.

The BCL, in Section 1747, also authorized corporations to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of a Representative, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him or her. Such insurance is declared to be consistent with Pennsylvania's public policy.

Article IX, Section 1 of the Corporation's bylaws provides that a director shall not be personally liable for monetary damages for any action taken or failed to be taken unless the director has breached or failed to perform the duties of his office and such breach or failure to perform constitutes self-dealing willful misconduct or recklessness. A director's criminal or tax liability is not limited by the foregoing provision.

Section 2 of Article IX of the Corporation's bylaws requires the

Corporation to indemnify any director or officer who is involved in any action, suit or proceeding, whether, civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, unless a court determines that such director or officer's conduct constituted willful misconduct or recklessness. However, the Corporation will indemnify a director or officer who initiates an action only if the action was authorized by the board of directors. The right to indemnification conferred by this bylaw includes payment of all reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, and any liability and loss. The bylaws further provide that any director or officer who is entitled to indemnification but is not paid in full by the Corporation within forty-five (45) days after a written claim, may bring suit against the Corporation; and if the director or officer succeeds, in whole or in part, he or she shall be entitled to be paid also the expense of prosecuting such claim.

The Corporation has entered into indemnification contracts with directors and officers of the Corporation which entitle them to full indemnification in accordance with the BCL and the Corporation's bylaws. Also, pursuant to the indemnification contracts, the Corporation is obligated to purchase and maintain directors and officers' liability insurance. Accordingly, the Corporation provides insurance contracts which insure its directors and officers, within the limits and subject to the limitations of the policies, against certain expenses and liabilities which have been incurred by, or resulted from, any actions, suits or proceedings to which they are parties by reason of being or having been directors or officers of the Corporation.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed

Not Applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits

The following is a list of exhibits filed as part of this Registration Statement, which are incorporated herein:

5.01 Internal Revenue Service determination letter that the Plan is qualified under Section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code

23.01 Consent of Independent Public Accountants

Item 9. Undertakings

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

- (1) To file during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in this Registration Statement or any material change to such information in this Registration Statement.
- (2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the provisions described in Item 6 of this Registration Statement, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the

successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in Unity Township, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, on the 20th day of December, 1996.

KENNAMETAL INC.

By: /s/ DAVID T. COFER

Authorized Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on December 20, 1996.

Signature -----	Capacity -----
/s/ ROBERT L. MCGEEHAN ----- Robert L. McGeehan	Director, President and Chief Executive Officer
/s/ RICHARD J. ORWIG ----- Richard J. Orwig	Vice President and Chief Administrative and Financial Officer
/s/ PETER B. BARTLETT ----- Peter B. Bartlett	Director
/s/ WARREN H. HOLLINSHEAD ----- Warren H. Hollinshead	Director
/s/ RICHARD C. ALBERDING ----- Richard C. Alberding	Director
/s/ QUENTIN C. MCKENNA ----- Quentin C. McKenna	Director
/s/ WILLIAM R. NEWLIN ----- William R. Newlin	Director
/s/ LARRY YOST ----- Larry Yost	Director
/s/ A. PETER HELD ----- A. Peter Held	Director
/s/ ALOYSIUS T. MCLAUGHLIN, JR. ----- Aloysius T. McLaughlin, Jr.	Director
/s/ JAMES R. BREISINGER ----- James R. Breisinger	Controller

The Plan. Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the plan administrator of the Kennametal Thrift Plan has duly caused this

registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in Unity Township, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on the 20th day of December, 1996.

KENNAMETAL THRIFT PLAN

By: Kennametal Inc., Trustee

By: /s/ AMY DOVERSPIKE

Amy Doverspike, Plan Administrator

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description
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5.01	Internal Revenue Service Determination Letter
23.01	Consent of Independent Public Accountants

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

DISTRICT DIRECTOR
31 HOPKINS PLAZA
BALTIMORE, MD 21201-0000

Date: Apr. 23, 1996

KENNAMETAL INC.
C/O ROBERT A. JOHNSON, ESQ.
BUCHANAN INGERSOLL P.C.
600 GRANT STREET, 57TH FLOOR
PITTSBURGH, PA 15219

Employer Identification Number:
25-0900168
File Folder Number:
521052803
Person to Contact:
EP/EO CUSTOMER SERVICE UNIT
Contact Telephone Number:
(410) 962-6058
Plan Name:
KENNAMETAL THRIFT PLAN

Plan Number: 002

Dear Applicant:

We have made a favorable determination on your plan, identified above, based on the information supplied. Please keep this letter in your permanent records.

Continued qualification of the plan under its present form will depend on its effect in operation. (See section 1.401-1(b)(3) of the Income Tax Regulations.) We will review the status of the plan in operation periodically.

The enclosed document explains the significance of this favorable determination letter, points out some features that may affect the qualified status of your employee retirement plan, and provides information on the reporting requirements for your plan. It also describes some events that automatically nullify it. It is very important that you read the publication.

This letter relates only to the status of your plan under the Internal Revenue Code. It is not a determination regarding the effect of other federal or local statutes.

This determination is subject to your adoption of the proposed amendments submitted in your letter dated June 30, 1995. The proposed amendments should be adopted on or before the date prescribed by the regulations under Code section 401(b).

This plan has been mandatorily disaggregated, permissibly aggregated, or restructured to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements.

This letter is issued under Rev. Proc. 93-39 and considers the amendments required by the Tax Reform Act of 1986 except as otherwise specified in this letter.

This plan satisfies the nondiscriminatory current availability requirements of section 1.401(a)(4)-4(b) of the regulations with respect to those benefits, rights, and features that are currently available to all employees in the plan's coverage group. For this purpose, the plan's coverage group consists of those employees treated as currently benefiting for purposes of demonstrating that the plan satisfies the minimum coverage requirements of section 410(b) of the Code.

This letter may not be relied upon with respect to whether the plan satisfies the qualification requirements as amended by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, Pub. L. 103-465.

The information on the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this determination. Please be sure to read and keep it with this letter.

We have sent a copy of this letter to your representative as indicated in the power of attorney.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact the person whose name and telephone number are shown above.

Sincerely yours,

District Director

Enclosure(s)
Publication 794
Addendum

This plan meets the requirements of Code sections 401(a) and 401(k). This determination letter is applicable to all members of the Controlled Group as listed in the attachment to your application.

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

As independent public accountants, we hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in this registration statement of our report dated December 13, 1996, included in the Form 11-K covering the Kennametal Thrift Plan for the year ended June 30, 1996, our reports dated July 22, 1996, included (or incorporated by reference) in Kennametal Inc.'s Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 1996, and all references to our firm included in this registration statement.

/s/ ARTHUR ANDERSEN LLP

Arthur Andersen LLP
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
December 19, 1996