SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

[X] ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 [NO FEE REQUIRED] for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1997

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[] TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 [NO FEE REQUIRED] for the transition period from to

Commission File Number: 1-5318

c. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:

KENNAMETAL THRIFT PLAN

Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office:

Kennametal Inc.
Route 981 at Westmoreland County Airport
P.O. Box 231
Latrobe, Pennsylvania 15650

KENNAMETAL INC. THRIFT PLAN I N D E X

Report of Independent Public Accountants

Financial Statements:

Statements of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits as of June 30, 1997 and 1996 $\,$

Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits for the years ended June 30, 1997 and 1996

Notes to Financial Statements

Supplemental Schedules:

Item 27a - Schedule of Assets Held for Investment Purposes as of June 30, 1997 $\,$

Item 27d - Schedule of Reportable Transactions for the year ended June 30, 1997 $\,$

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

To the Board of Directors, Kennametal Inc.: and to the Kennametal Inc. ERISA Compliance Committee:

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for plan benefits of Kennametal Inc. Thrift Plan (the Plan) as of June 30, 1997 and 1996, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for plan benefits for the years then ended. These financial statements and the schedules referred to below are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and schedules based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for plan benefits of the Plan as of June 30, 1997 and 1996, and the changes in net assets available for plan benefits for the years then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audits were performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental schedules of assets held for investment purposes and reportable transactions are presented for the purpose of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Department for Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. The supplemental schedules and fund information have been subject to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/ ARTHUR ANDERSEN LLP
----Arthur Andersen LLP

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania December 23, 1997

KENNAMETAL INC. THRIFT PLAN (PLAN 002) STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR PLAN BENEFITS JUNE 30, 1997 AND 1996

ASSETS		1997		1996
Receivables:				
Employer Contributions	\$	- /	\$	291,288
Participant Contributions		410,565		829,453
Total Receivables	\$	557,073	\$	1,120,741
General Investments:				
Common/Collective Trusts-Fixed Fund Pooled Separate Accounts -	\$ 7	8,332,505	\$	78,721,429
Equity and Balanced Funds		-		54,808,031
Mutual Funds	7	8,042,271		-
Kennametal Inc. Common Stock		285,172		-
Participant Loans		981,817		-
Total General Investments	\$15	7,641,765	\$1	.33,529,460
NET ASSETS		8,198,838		34,650,201

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

KENNAMETAL INC.
THRIFT PLAN
(PLAN 002)
STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR PLAN BENEFITS
FOR YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1997 AND 1996

	1997	1996
Contributions: Employer Participant	\$ 4,216,157 12,301,425	
Total Contributions	\$ 16,517,582	\$ 14,382,439
Earnings on Investments: Net Investment Gain - Common/Collective Trusts -		
Fixed Fund Pooled Separate Accounts -	\$ 4,866,795	\$ 4,678,502
Equity and Balanced Funds Mutual Funds Kennametal Inc. Common Stock	5,658,753 6,424,947 27,895	8,551,079 - -
Total Earnings on Investments	\$ 16,978,390	
Expenses: Benefit Payments to Participants Administrative Expenses		(\$ 9,620,295) (230,542)
Total Expenses	(\$ 13,620,355)	(\$ 9,850,837)
Net Change in Plan Assets	\$ 19,875,617	\$ 17,761,183
Transfers to the Plan: ATC/Hertel Retirement Savings Plan	\$ - 3,673,020	\$ 68,273
Total Transfers to the Plan	\$ 3,673,020	\$ 68,273
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$134,650,201	\$116,820,745
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$158,198,838 ========	\$134,650,201 =======

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

KENNAMETAL INC. THRIFT PLAN (PLAN 002) NOTES TO ETNANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 1997 AND 1996

DESCRIPTION OF PLAN:

The Thrift Plan (the Plan), a defined contribution employee benefit plan, adopted on January 1, 1977, was established to encourage investment and savings for certain salaried and hourly employees of Kennametal Inc. and subsidiaries and provide a method to supplement their retirement income benefits. Participants could elect a contribution rate from 2% to 6% of their earnings, on an after-tax basis, with such contributions made monthly through payroll deductions. Employer contributions were made each month in an amount equal to 50% of participant contributions for the month.

On April 1, 1985, the Thrift Plan was changed to provide a vehicle for employee savings with an added 401(k) tax-deferred feature. The Plan was amended to allow participants to elect a contribution rate (either before-tax, after-tax, or a combination of both) of 2% - 12% of the employee's base talter tal, of a contributions of the participant contribution up to a maximum of 3% of the participant's salary. Effective April 27, 1987, the Plan was further amended to provide that investment management, recordkeeping and other administrative fees and expenses of the Plan be paid from assets and income of the Plan.

During fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, the Company acquired Adaptive Technologies Corporation (ATC). As a result of the acquisition, ATC's 401(k) plan was merged into the Plan during fiscal year ending June 30, 1996.

Effective as of March 1, 1997, the assets of the Kennametal Inc. Retirement Savings Plan (RSP) were merged into the Plan.

All eligible employees are entitled to become active participants of the Plan on the first day of the month coinciding with or following the completion of ten (10) days of service. Currently, participants become fully vested in employer contributions on the third anniversary of their employment date. Forfeitures of employer contributions as a result of withdrawals, terminations, etc., reduce the amount of future contributions required by the employer. Under present federal income tax law, employer contributions and all earnings of the Plan do not constitute taxable income to the participants until withdrawn from the plan by the participants.

Distributions to participants due to disability, retirement or death are $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left$ payable in either a lump sum, periodic payments for a period not to exceed ten (10) years or purchase of an annuity at the participant's election.

Effective June 2, 1997, a participant may borrow the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of his or her vested account balance, with a minimum loan amount of \$1,000. Loans are repayable through payroll deductions over a period not to exceed five years. If the proceeds are used to acquire a participant's principal residence, the repayment period shall be no more than 15 years. The interest rate is determined by the Plan Administrator based on existing market conditions and is fixed over the life of the loan. The interest rate at June 30, 1997, was 9.5%.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING -- The accounts of the Plan are maintained on the accrual basis of accounting.

INVESTMENTS -- Investment transactions are recorded on a trade date basis, and revenues are recorded on an accrual basis of accounting.

Effective January 27, 1992, PRIMCO Capital Management, Inc. was appointed as an investment manager to manage the assets in the Fixed Income Fund of the Retirement Savings Plan and Thrift Plan. Investment contracts placed by PRIMCO represented investment of combined assets for both the . Retirement Savings Plan and the Thrift Plan until the merger as of March 1, 1997. Individual Plan investment contracts (GICs) made prior to PRIMCO's appointment will remain in effect until the scheduled maturity period. Investments of the Fixed Income Fund consist of traditional investment contracts issued by insurance companies, banks and other financial institutions (or corporations), asset-backed investment contracts, synthetic investment contracts, PRIMCO Group Trust and short-term investments.

A custodial arrangement for the Fixed Income Fund investments of the Retirement Savings Plan and Thrift Plan was established on April 30, 1992. PNC Bank, N.A. (PNC) was appointed as custodian of the custodial arrangement. As custodian, PNC also managed the cash portion of the Plans' Fixed Income Fund. Effective March 1, 1997, Putnam Fiduciary Trust Company was appointed Trustee for the Plan.

The fair market values of individual investments that represent 5% or more of the Plan's total plan assets as of June 30, 1997 and 1996, were as

> 199, - 70 232.505 \$ 78,721,429 1997 1996 \$ 78,332,505

Voyager \$ 57,532,476 Asset Allocation - Balanced Portfolio \$ 12,132,867

The Plan's interest in the assets of the common trust is included in the accompanying Statements of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits. During the fiscal 1997 Plan year, all of the assets of the Retirement Savings Plan were merged into the Plan. Accordingly, there were no assets held by the Retirement Savings Plan as of June 30, 1997.

	1997		1996	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Thrift Plan	\$ 78,332,505	100.00%	\$ 78,721,429	95.89%
Retirement Savings Plan	-	-	3,373,189	4.11%
Total Assets of Common Trust	\$ 78,332,505	100.00%	\$ 82,094,618	100.00%

Common trust income allocated to the participating plans for the years ended June 30, 1997 and June 30, 1996, were as follows:

Earnings on Investments - Interest	1997	1996
Thrift Plan	\$ 4,866,795	\$ 4,678,502
Retirement Savings Plan (as of March 1, 1997)	140,343	186,930
Total Earnings on Investments - Interest	\$ 5,007,138	\$ 4,865,432

Investments of the Equity Fund consisted solely of common stocks whereas the Balanced Fund's investments were a combination of stocks, bonds, cash and convertible securities. Effective March 1, 1997, the investments of the Equity Fund and Balanced Fund were transferred to two mutual funds, the Putnam Voyager Fund and the Putnam Asset Allocation - Balanced Portfolio Fund. These mutual funds, together with the other Putnam mutual funds including Growth and Income, New Opportunities, Asset Allocation - Growth, Asset Allocation - Conservative, and International Growth are reflected in the accompanying Statements of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits at market value.

Investments held in the Equity Fund and Balanced Fund are reflected in the accompanying Statements of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits at market value. Market value, which is equivalent to current value, is the unit valuation of the investments in commingled funds as reported to the Trustee by the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States.

Effective March 1, 1997, Kennametal Inc. common stock was added as an investment option to the Plan. Accordingly, investments in common stock consist solely of Kennametal Inc. common stock and are recorded at market value.

In September of 1994, the AICPA issued SOP 94-4, "Reporting of Investment Contracts Held by Health and Welfare Benefit Plans and Defined-Contribution Pension Plans." SOP 94-4 states that fully benefit-responsive investment contracts of defined contribution plans should be accounted for at contract value in the accompanying financial statements. PRIMCO Capital Management, Inc. certified that all the investment contracts held in the Fixed Income Fund are fully benefit-responsive. The difference between the contract value and the fair value of all investment contracts was immaterial.

USE OF ESTIMATES IN PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

PLAN TERMINATION -- Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, Kennametal has the right to terminate the Plan at any time, subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. In the event of Plan termination, the accounts of all participants will become fully vested and non-forfeitable.

 ${\tt RECLASSIFICATIONS} \ {\tt --} \ {\tt Certain} \ {\tt prior} \ {\tt year} \ {\tt balances} \ {\tt have} \ {\tt been} \ {\tt reclassified} \\ {\tt to} \ {\tt conform} \ {\tt to} \ {\tt the} \ {\tt current} \ {\tt year} \ {\tt presentation}.$

3. QUALIFICATION OF PLAN:

The Plan has been determined by the Internal Revenue Service to be qualified under the Internal Revenue Code. The Internal Revenue Service issued a favorable determination on April 23, 1996. Plans which are qualified under regulations of the Internal Revenue Service are not subject to federal income taxes.

4. KENNAMETAL THRIFT PLAN ADMINISTRATION:

Kennametal Inc. served as Trustee of the Plan. Effective March 1, 1997, Putnam Fiduciary Trust Company was appointed the Trustee of the Plan.

Benefit Services Corporation, a firm providing defined contribution administration services, served as recordkeeper for the Plan. Effective March 1, 1997, Putnam Investments was appointed as the recordkeeper for the Plan.

PRIMCO Capital Management, Inc., serves as the investment manager for the Fixed Income Fund. Putnam Fiduciary Trust Company serves as custodian for the Plan. The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States served as the investment manager and custodian for the Equity Fund and Balanced Fund through February 28, 1997. During Fiscal Year 1993, the business of Equitable Capital Management Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Equitable Life, was transferred to Alliance Capital Management L.P., a partially owned indirect subsidiary of Equitable Life. Effective March 1, 1997, the investments held in the Equity Fund and the Balanced Fund were transferred to certain mutual funds of Putnam Investments (see note 2). Accordingly, Putnam Fiduciary Trust Company was appointed the investment manager and the custodian.

5. BENEFIT PAYABLE:

As of June 30, 1996, the Plan was liable for participant benefits due but unpaid in the amount of \$2,102,139. Additionally, the Plan has an operating payable of (\$56) for 1996. These amounts are recorded as a liability in the Plan's Form 5500; however, these amounts are not recorded as a liability in the accompanying Statements of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The benefit payable of \$2,102,139 is included in the total benefit payments in the accompanying Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits for the year end June 30, 1997.

6. Schedule of Assets Held for Investment Purposes:

See attached schedules.

7. Schedule of Reportable Transactions:

See attached schedules.

8.

KENNAMETAL THRIFT PLAN - (002) CHANGE IN ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR PLAN BENEFITS AS OF 06/30/97 BY INVESTMENT FUND EIN 25-0900168

	Alliance Equity Fund		Primco Fund
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$47,290,863	\$9,573,308	\$77,786,030
Contributions	4,598,962	1,007,830	4,995,457
Earnings on Investments Payments	4,847,699 (3,082,379)	,	4,752,078 (9,226,491)
Administrative Fees	(20,058)	(4,103)	(134,035)
Loan Issues	-	-	(501,990)
Transfer From RSP	-	-	3,673,020
Transfer Between Funds	(53,635,087)	(10,842,581)	(3,011,564)
Net Assets at End of Year	\$ - ======	\$ - =======	\$78,332,505 ======

PUTNAM INVESTMENT FUNDS

	Voyager	Balanced	Growth and Income	New Oppor- tunities	Growth	Conser- vative	Inter- national Growth	KMT Common Stock	Loan	Contri- bution Receivable	e Totals
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ - \$	3134,650,201
Contributions	1,556,438	447,324	886,718	1,344,785	386,427	210,313	298,905	226,902	448	557,073	16,517,582
Earnings on Investments	5,297,253	899,219	70,204	184,549	30,621	14,673	42,592	28,448	-	-	16,978,390
Benefit Payments	(476,417)	(79,638)) (8,723)	(15,639)	(8,885) (5,206)	(1,996)	(3,948)	(217)	-	(13,455,047)
Administrative Fees	(5,869)	(1,130)) (27)	(41)	(10) (6)	(16)	(13)	-	-	(165,308)
Loan Issues	(390,306)	(52,439)	(7,792)	(14,740)	(3,791) (2,438)	(4,723)	(3,367)	981,586	-	-
Transfer From RSP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,673,020
Transfer Be- tween Funds	51,551,377	10,919,531	1,606,732	1,548,535	340,113	522,276	963,518	37,150	-	-	-
Net Assets at End of Year S	\$57,532,476 =======	\$12,132,867 =======	\$2,547,112	\$3,047,449 ======	\$744,475 ======	\$739,612 ======	\$1,298,280 ======	\$285,172 ======	\$981,817 ======	\$557,073 \$	\$158,198,838 =======

KENNAMETAL THRIFT PLAN - (002) CHANGE IN ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR PLAN BENEFITS AS OF 06/30/96 BY INVESTMENT FUND EIN 25-0900168

	Alliance Equity Fund	Alliance Balanced Fund	Primco Fund	Totals
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$30,746,840	\$7,265,236	\$78,808,669	\$116,820,745
Contributions	5,374,210	1,321,038	7,687,191	14,382,439
Earnings on Investments	7,511,068	1,040,011	4,678,502	13,229,581
Benefit Payments	(2,082,222)	(500,900)	(7,037,173)	(9,620,295)
Administrative Fees	(30,570)	(6,761)	(193,211)	(230,542)
Transfer From Other Plans	51,080	13,740	3,453	68,273

Transfer Between Funds	5,720,457	440,944	(6,161,401)	-
Net Assets at End of Year	\$47,290,863	\$9,573,308	\$77.786.030	\$134,650,201
	========	=======	========	=========

Statement of Assets Kennametal Inc. Retirement Savings and Thrift Plans Item 27a Schedule of Assets Held for Investment Purposes

EIN - 25-0900168 Note: Cost = Market June 30, 1997

ssuer	Contract Number	Maturity	Years to Maturity	Duration	Yield	Market/ Current Value
ecurity Backed Investments						
RIMCO GROUP TRUST						
ankers Trust (Del) BASIC	97-883THT	Jun-29-00	3.00	3.00	6.81%	\$ 8,337,007
ransamerica Life & Annuity	76543	Nov-15-04	7.38	4.00 3.43	6.28	6,194,613
EPARATE ACCOUNT CONTRACTS				3.43	6.58%	\$14,531,620
LIANATE ACCOUNT CONTINACTS						
llstate Life Ins. Co.	31007	Feb-18-02	4.64	2.50	5.93%	\$ 2,193,770
ohn Hancock Mutual Life	7562	May-01-07	9.83	3.50	7.52	4,261,484
ass Mutual Life Ins. Co.	10480	Jul-05-02	5.01	2.58	6.30	4,276,505
etropolitan Life Ins Co. ew York Life Ins. Co.	13708 20032-18D	Jan-02-01 Aug-31-98	3.51 1.25	2.51 0.44	6.60 5.28	6,994,976 2,202,425
CW TOLK LITE INS. CO.	70027-TOD	Aug-01-90	1.20			
				2.50	6.51%	\$19,929,160
YNTHETICS						
ankers Trust (Del) BASIC	92-472	Jul-15-97	0.04	0.04	6.20%	\$ 123,847
aisse des Depots (CDC)	220-01	Dec-31-99	2.50	1.80	6.19	636,501
oples Security Life	00028TR	Mar-30-07	9.75	1.88	6.61	11,319,653
				1.86	6.59%	\$12,080,001
b-Total				2.69	6.55%	\$46,540,781
NVESTMENT CONTRACTS						
IXED RATE & FIXED TERM						
anada Life Assurance Co.	45798	Jan-04-99	1.51	1.19	5.36%	\$ 4,096,707
ohn Hancock Mutual Life	6258	Jul-01-97			7.34	2,506,036
ohn Hancock Mutual Life	6406	Jul-17-97	0.05	0.05	6.49	1,335,320
etropolitan Life Ins Co.	13678	Feb-01-99	1.59	1.47	5.55	5,903,992
etropolitan Life Ins Co. ew York Life Ins. Co.	13852 30334	Oct-01-99 Apr-03-00	2.25 2.76	2.17 2.05	7.55 6.45	2,439,586 3,170,174
in Life Ass. Canada(US)	S-0892-G	Oct-01-98	1.25	1.09	5.05	4,780,743
				1.26	5.98%	\$24,232,558
ıb-Total				1.26	5.98%	\$24,232,558
ASH & EQUIVALENTS						
ıtnam	522619	Jul-01-97	_	_	5.76%	\$7,605,159
ub-Total				_		\$78,378,498
ther						
.nei						(45,993) \$78,332,505
OTAL PORTFOLIO						

KENNAMETAL INC. THRIFT PLAN EIN 25-0900168

Item 27a - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS HELD FOR INVESTMENT PURPOSES NET ASSETS AT JUNE 30, 1997

SHARES	FUND	MARKET VALUE	COST	
123,526.322	The Putnam Fund for Growth and Income	\$ 2,547,112	\$ 2,484,024	
3,205,151.828	Putnam Voyager Fund	57,532,476	52,503,379	
68,528.211	Putnam New Opportunities Fund	3,047,449	2,868,979	
58,898.425	Putnam Asset Allocation - Growth Portfolio	744, 475	714,712	
1,050,464.638	Putnam Asset Allocation - Balanced Portfolio	12,132,867	11,381,983	
72,796.443	Putnam Asset Allocation - Conservative Portfolio	739,612	729,467	
73,838.987	Putnam International Growth Fund	1,298,280	1,256,801	
-	Loan Fund	981,817	981,817	
6,631.902	Company Stock	285,172	258,110	
		\$79,309,260	\$73,179,272	

KENNAMETAL INC. THRIFT PLAN EIN 25-0900168 PN002

Item 27d - SCHEDULE OF REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1997

PURCHASES

Date	Description 	Cost at Acquisition Date	Market Value at Transition Date	Net Gain or (Loss)
Various	Alliance Capital Management Corp. Contract-3862 (Pooled Separate Accts.)	\$12,747,464	\$12,747,464	\$ -
Various	Trust for US Treasury Obligations Federated Fund #59	\$19,054,208	\$19,054,208	\$ -
Various	Putnam Voyager Fund	\$52,943,942	\$52,943,942	\$ -
Various	Putnam Asset Allocation - Balanced Portfolio	\$11,034,969	\$11,034,969	\$ -
		SALES		
Date 	Description		Market Value at Transition Date	
Various	Alliance Capital Management Corp. Contract-3862 (Pooled Separate Accts.)	\$40,097,267	\$67,555,495	\$27,458,228
Various	Trust for US Treasury Obligations Federated Fund #59	\$22,185,003	\$22,185,003	\$ -

SIGNATURES

THE PLAN. Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the plan administrator of the Kennametal Thrift Plan has duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, hereunto duly authorized, in Unity Township, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

KENNAMETAL THRIFT PLAN

By: Kennametal Inc., Trustee

By: /s/ AMY DOVERSPIKE
-----Amy Doverspike
Plan Administrator