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 (date of earliest event reported): August 4, 2005

Network Appliance, Inc. (Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

0-27130 (Commission File Number) 77-0307520 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

495 East Java Drive Sunnyvale, CA 94089

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(408) 822-6000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Item 2.02.

On August 4, 2005, Network Appliance, Inc. issued a press release announcing its preliminary earnings for the first quarter of its fiscal year 2006. The press release is attached as an exhibit to this Form 8-K, and the information set forth therein is hereby incorporated by reference into this Item 2.02.

Item 9.01(c).

Network Appliance, Inc.'s August 4, 2005 press release is hereby furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Form 8-K in connection with the disclosures under Item 2.02 of this Form 8-K.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

August 4, 2005

By: /s/ Steven Gomo

Steven J. Gomo Chief Financial Officer

Network Appliance Announces Preliminary First Quarter Fiscal Year 2006 Results

SUNNYVALE, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Aug. 4, 2005--Network Appliance, Inc. (Nasdaq:NTAP), the leader in advanced networked storage solutions, today announced preliminary results for the fiscal year 2006 first quarter ending July 29, 2005. Revenues are expected to be in the range of \$446 to \$449 million, down approximately 1% sequentially from the fourth quarter of FY2005, and up 24% to 25% over the first quarter of FY2005. GAAP and non-GAAP(1) net income per share are expected to be in the range of \$0.15 to \$0.16.

These preliminary results are below the company's previously stated targets issued on May 24, 2005 for a sequential revenue increase of 3% to 6% which equates to approximately \$465 to \$479 million, for GAAP net income per share of \$0.16 and \$0.17, and non-GAAP net income per share of \$0.17 to \$0.18. Network Appliance will announce final results on August 17, 2005 after the close of market.

"The primary factor impacting our results this quarter was a product transition to our new midrange FAS3000 series. The market response to the new product line has been very positive, however the take up rates were more back-end loaded than we had planned," said Dan Warmenhoven, CEO of Network Appliance. "We remain confident in the competitiveness of our products and in our ability to grow our business over the long term."

Conference Call Information

The NetApp preliminary first quarter results conference call will be broadcast live via the Internet at http://investors.netapp.com/today, Thursday, August 4, 2005, at 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time. This press release and any other information related to the call will also be posted to the Web site at that location. The listen-only conference call will also be available live at (866) 543-6405 in the United States and (617) 213-8897 outside the United States. The passcode for both numbers is 24411279.

A replay will be available for seven days following completion of the live call by dialing (888) 286-8010 in the United States and (617) 801-6888 outside the United States, with replay code 48571288.

About Network Appliance

Network Appliance is a world leader in unified storage solutions for today's data-intensive enterprise. Since its inception in 1992, Network Appliance has delivered technology, product, and partner firsts that simplify data management. Information about Network Appliance solutions and services is available at www.netapp.com.

"Safe Harbor" Statement under U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The preliminary first quarter results in this release are forward looking statements. Actual, final results could vary because of any accounting adjustments made during the quarterly close.

Network Appliance Usage of non-GAAP Financials

The Company refers to the non-GAAP financial measures cited above in making operating decisions because they provide meaningful supplemental information regarding the Company's operational performance. In addition, these non-GAAP financial measures facilitate management's internal comparisons to the Company's historical operating results and comparisons to competitors' operating results. We include these non-GAAP financial measures in our earnings announcement because we believe they are useful to investors in allowing for greater transparency with respect to supplemental information used by management in its financial and operational decision making such as employee compensation planning. In addition, we have historically reported similar non-GAAP financial measures to our investors and believe that the inclusion of comparative numbers

provides consistency in our financial reporting at this time.

(1) Non-GAAP results exclude amortization of intangible assets, in process research and development, stock compensation, restructuring charges (recoveries), net gain on investments and the related effects on income taxes.

NETWORK APPLIANCE, INC. RECONCILIATION OF NON GAAP GUIDANCE TO GAAP GUIDANCE EXPRESSED AS EARNINGS PER SHARE FIRST QUARTER 2006 (Unaudited)

ADJUSTMENTS OF SPECIFIC ITEMS TO EARNINGS PER SHARE FOR THE FIRST QUARTER (\$)

COST OF REVENUES Adjustment:

Amortization of intangible assets (0.0029)

OPERATING EXPENSES Adjustments:

Stock compensation (0.0052)
Amortization of intangible assets (0.0040)
Restructuring charges 0.0031

TOTAL OTHER INCOME (EXPENSES), NET

Adjustments:

Net (gain)/loss on investments 0.0001

PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES

Adjustments:

Income tax effect 0.0045

NET DECREASE IN EARNINGS PER SHARE (0.0044)

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