

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 March 15, 2011
(Date of earliest event reported)

Commission File Number 0-16211

DENTSPLY International Inc.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State of Incorporation)

39-1434669
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

221 West Philadelphia Street,
York, Pennsylvania
(Address of principal executive offices)

17405-0872
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:
(717) 845-7511

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))
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Item 8.01 – Other Events

A copy of the Company's press release dated March 15, 2011 is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated by reference into this Form 8-K.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits:

99.1 DENTSPLY International Inc. press release dated March 15, 2011

SIGNATURE

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

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC.

/s/ *Deborah M. Rasin*

Deborah M. Rasin

Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel

Date: March 15, 2011



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NEWS

For Further
Information
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Chief Financial Officer
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL

COMMENTS ON IMPACT OF NATURAL DISASTER IN JAPAN

York, PA – March 15, 2011 – DENTSPLY International Inc. (NASDAQ:XRAY) reported today that all of its Japan-based associates are safe following the massive earthquake and subsequent tsunami near Japan's northeastern coast of Honshu.

DENTSPLY's primary facilities located in Tokyo and Nasu were not in the immediate area of devastation, and did not sustain substantial damage.

DENTSPLY has several key suppliers in Japan, including two that are located in the affected region. The Company has been informed that the employees of these suppliers appear to be safe, and that their facilities did not sustain any serious damage. One such key supplier, which is the source of product comprising approximately 9% of the Company's consolidated net sales in 2010, is located in an evacuation zone. As such, it is not clear when production will resume and product supply will be available from this supplier's facility.



Bret W. Wise, DENTSPLY's Chairman and CEO, states, "Our DENTSPLY associates' safety remains our utmost priority. We are currently assessing the impact that this natural disaster will have on our business and working diligently to minimize any disruption to our employees, customers and business partners. While our global business has started the year strong and we remain on track to meet our targets for 2011, the negative impact of the situation in Japan is difficult to quantify at this early stage. As such we are withdrawing our previously issued earnings guidance for 2011 until more information is available. On behalf of the entire Company, I would like to express our deepest condolences to all Japanese citizens as they manage through this tragic event."

DENTSPLY is preparing a donation through the International Red Cross to help the Japanese people in this time of distress.

DENTSPLY designs, develops, manufactures and markets a broad range of professional dental products including dental implants, endodontic instruments and materials, orthodontic appliances, restorative materials, preventive materials and devices, and prosthetic materials and devices. The Company distributes its dental products in over 120 countries under some of the most well-established brand names in the industry. DENTSPLY is committed to the development of innovative, high quality, cost-effective new products for the dental market.

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