

NEWPORT CORP
Form DEFA14A
February 23, 2016

**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)

February 23, 2016

NEWPORT CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation)

000-01649
(Commission File Number)

94-0849175
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

1791 Deere Avenue, Irvine, California
(Address of principal executive offices)

92606
(Zip Code)

(949) 863-3144

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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Not Applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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))

Item 8.01. Other Events

As previously disclosed in the Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 23, 2016 by Newport Corporation (the Company), on February 22, 2016, the Company entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the Merger Agreement) with MKS Instruments, Inc., a Massachusetts corporation (MKS), and PSI Equipment, Inc., a Nevada corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of MKS (Merger Sub). The Merger Agreement provides for the merger of Merger Sub with and into the Company (the Merger), with the Company surviving the Merger as a wholly owned subsidiary of MKS, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Merger Agreement.

On February 23, 2016, the Company and MKS held a joint investor conference call in connection with the announcement of the execution of the Merger Agreement. A transcript of the conference call is filed as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

| Exhibit Number | Description |
|-----------------------|--|
| 99.1 | Transcript of joint investor conference call held by Newport Corporation and MKS Instruments, Inc. on February 23, 2016. |

Additional Information and Where to Find It

The Company plans to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) and mail to its stockholders a Proxy Statement in connection with the Merger. Additionally, the Company will file other relevant materials with the SEC in connection with the Merger. The Proxy Statement will contain important information about the Company, Merger Sub, MKS, the Merger and related matters. Investors and security holders are urged to read the Proxy Statement carefully when it is available.

Investors and security holders will be able to obtain free copies of the Proxy Statement and other documents filed with the SEC by the Company and MKS through the web site maintained by the SEC at www.sec.gov.

In addition, investors and security holders will be able to obtain free copies of the Proxy Statement from the Company by contacting Chris Toth at 949-331-0337.

The Company and MKS, and their respective directors and executive officers, may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from the stockholders of the Company in respect of the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement. Information regarding the Company's directors and executive officers is contained in the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended January 3, 2015 and its proxy statement dated April 8, 2015, which are filed with the SEC. Information regarding MKS's directors and executive officers is contained in MKS's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 and its proxy statement dated March 13, 2015, which are filed with the SEC. To the extent holdings of securities by such directors or executive officers have changed since the amounts printed in the 2015 proxy statements, such changes have been or will be reflected on Statements of Change in Ownership on Form 4 filed with the SEC. Additional information regarding the participants in the solicitation of proxies in respect of the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement and a description of their direct and indirect interests, by security holdings or otherwise, will be contained in the Proxy Statement to be filed by the Company and other relevant materials to be filed with the SEC when they become available.

Forward-Looking Statements

Statements in this document regarding the proposed transaction between the Company and MKS, the expected timetable for completing the transaction, future financial and operating results, benefits and synergies of the transaction, future opportunities for the combined company and any other statements about the Company or MKS managements' future expectations, beliefs, goals, plans or prospects constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Any statements that are not statements of historical fact (including statements containing the words will, projects, intends, believes, plans, anticipates, expects, estimates, forecasts, or similar expressions) should also be considered to be forward-looking statements. There are a number of important factors that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements, including: (1) the ability to consummate the transaction, (2) risks that the conditions to the closing of the transaction are not satisfied, including the risk that required approvals for the transaction from governmental authorities or the stockholders of the Company are not obtained; (3) litigation relating to the transaction; (4) the ability of MKS to successfully integrate the Company's operations and employees; (5) unexpected costs, charges or expenses resulting from transaction; (6) risks that the proposed transaction disrupts the current plans and operations of the Company and MKS; (7) the ability to realize anticipated synergies and cost savings; (8) competition from larger and more established companies in the Company's markets; (9) MKS's ability to successfully grow the Company's business; (10) potential adverse reactions or changes to business relationships resulting from the announcement or completion of the transaction; (11) the availability and terms of the financing to be incurred in connection with the transaction; (12) the retention of key employees; (13) legislative, regulatory and economic developments, including changing business conditions in the industries in which the Company and MKS operate and the economy in general as well as financial performance and expectations of the Company's and MKS's existing and prospective customers, and the other factors described in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 3, 2015 and its most recent quarterly report filed with the SEC and in MKS's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 and its most recent quarterly report filed with the SEC. However, it is not possible to predict or identify all such factors. Consequently, while the list of factors presented here is considered representative, no such list should be considered to be a complete statement of all potential risks and uncertainties. The Company and MKS disclaim any intention or obligation to update any forward-looking statements as a result of developments occurring after the date of this document.

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 hereunto duly authorized.

February 23, 2016

NEWPORT CORPORATION

By:

/s/ Jeffrey B. Coyne
Jeffrey B. Coyne
Senior Vice President, General Counsel and
Corporate Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

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