

**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) October 27, 2006

HAEMONETICS CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Massachusetts

1-10730

04-2882273

*(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)*

*(Commission
File Number)*

*(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)*

400 Wood Road

02184

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code 781-848-7100

(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 (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- 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 5.02b Departure of Director

On October 27, 2006, Ronald A. Matricaria, Chairman of the Board of Directors (the Board), notified the Board of his decision to retire from the Board at the end of the calendar year. Mr. Matricaria noted that his decision was for personal reasons and not due to any disagreement with the Company on any matter related to the Company's operations, policies or practices.

Item 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit 99.1 – The Company's press release dated October 31, 2006

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2

SIGNATURES

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

HAEMONETICS CORPORATION

(Registrant)

/s/ Ronald J. Ryan

Ronald J. Ryan, Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

Date: October 31, 2006

Haemonetics(R) Announces Change to Board of Directors

BRAINTREE, Mass., Oct. 31 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Haemonetics Corporation (NYSE: HAE) announced today the decision by Ronald A. Matricaria, Chairman of the Board, to retire from Haemonetics at the end of the calendar year, in order to spend more personal and professional time on the west coast. Ron Gelbman, a Haemonetics board member since 2000, was elected lead director, effective immediately.

Mr. Matricaria had been a Haemonetics director since October 2002, and chairman since April 2003.

Mr. Matricaria said, "During the past four years Haemonetics made remarkable progress in preparing to transition into a higher growth profile company. That transformation is now well underway. I am proud of my association with the Company, its employees and my colleagues on the board. There is an exciting future in store for this business."

Haemonetics (NYSE: HAE) is a global company engaged in the design, manufacture and worldwide marketing of automated blood processing systems. These systems address important medical markets: surgical blood salvage, blood component collection, plasma collection, and blood component safety. To learn more about Haemonetics' products and markets, visit its web site at <http://www.haemonetics.com>.

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SOURCE Haemonetics Corporation

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