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MCLEODUSA INC Form 8-K March 17, 2005

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT
TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

| Dat | e of report (Date of earliest ev | vent reported) Marc | ch 16, 2005 |
|--|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| | MCLEODUSA INCO | DRPORATED | |
| | (Exact Name of Registrant as S | Specified in Its Ch | narter) |
| | DELAWAR | RE | |
| (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) | | | |
| | 0-20763 | 42-1 | 407240 |
| (Commiss | sion File Number) | (IRS Employer | Identification No. |
| 420 | LeodUSA Technology Park 10 C. Street SW, P.O. Box 3177 lar Rapids, IA | | 52406-3177 |
| (Address o | of Principal Executive Offices) | | (Zip Code) |
| | (319) 364- | -0000 | |
| (Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code) | | | |
| (F | ormer Name or Former Address, it | f Changed Since Las | st Report) |
| simultaneou | the appropriate box below if the asly satisfy the filing obligation or ovisions (see General Instructs | on of the registrar | |
| | ritten communications pursuant to 7 CFR 230.425) | Rule 425 under th | ne Securities Act |
| | pliciting material pursuant to Ru R 240.14a-12) | ule 14a-12 under th | ne Exchange Act (17 |
| | re-commencement communications purchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b)) | | d-2(b) under the |
| | re-commencement communications purchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c)) | | e-4(c) under the |

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ITEM 1.01 ENTRY INTO A MATERIAL DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT

On March 16, 2005, McLeodUSA Incorporated ("the Company") and certain of its subsidiaries ("Subsidiary Guarantors") entered into a Forbearance Agreement, among the Company, the Subsidiary Guarantors, the lenders thereto ("Lenders"), and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. ("Agent"), as Administrative Agent (the "Forbearance Agreement"), which is hereby incorporated by reference and attached hereto as Exhibit 10.1. The Forbearance Agreement relates to (1) the Credit Agreement dated as of May 31, 2000, as amended, among the Company, the Lenders and the Agent (the "Credit Agreement"), (2) the Credit Agreement dated as of April 16, 2002, as amended, among the Company, the Lenders and the Agent (the "Exit Facility" and, collectively with the Credit Agreement, the "Credit Facilities") and (3) the Subsidiary Guarantee Agreement dated as of May 31, 2000, as amended and restated as of April 16, 2002, among the Subsidiary Guarantors and the Agent.

Pursuant to the Forbearance Agreement, the Lenders have agreed to forbear from exercising any remedies as a result of certain specified defaults under the Credit Facilities anticipated by the Company during the forbearance period, including, without limitation, the failure to make scheduled amortization payments under the Credit Facilities and interest payments under the Credit Agreement. The forbearance period, the purpose of which is to enable the parties to explore possible strategic transactions, runs through May 23, 2005. Theodore J. Forstmann, director and stockholder of the Company, and a General Partner in certain funds affiliated with Forstmann Little & Co. which collectively hold a controlling interest in the Company's voting securities, is a lender party to the Credit Agreement.

ITEM 2.02 RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION

On March 16, 2005, the Company announced, among other things, its financial and operating results for the quarter and total year ended December 31, 2004 in a press release, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| 10.1 | Forbearance Agreement, dated as of March 16, 2005, among McLeodUSA Incorporated (the "Borrower"), each of the Subsidiaries of the Borrower listed on Schedule I thereto (the "Subsidiary Guarantors"), the financial institutions named on the signature pages thereto (together with their respective successors and assigns, the "Participant Lenders") and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as agent for the Lenders (the "Administrative Agent") |
| 99.1 | Press Release, dated March 16, 2005 |

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.

MCLEODUSA INCORPORATED

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Dated: March 16, 2005 By: /s/ G. Kenneth Burckhardt

Name: G. Kenneth Burckhardt

Title: Executive Vice President and

Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

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