CROSS A T CO Form 8-K October 24, 2007

#### 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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) October 24, 2007

#### A. T. CROSS COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Rhode Island 1-6720 05-0126220

(Commission

(State or other jurisdiction File Number) (IRS Employer of incorporation) Identification No.)

One Albion Road, Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant

's telephone number, including area code (401) 333 1200

N/A

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

Section 2 - Financial Information

Item 2.02 - Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On October 24, 2007, the registrant issued the following press release announcing financial results for the third quarter ended September 29, 2007:

#### **NEWS RELEASE**

CONTACTS: Kevin F. Mahoney

Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer

401-335-8470

Integrated Corporate Relations James Palczynski/David Griffith

203-682-8200

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### A.T. CROSS COMPANY REPORTS SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH IN

#### THIRD QUARTER RESULTS

\*

**Revenue Grows Ten Percent** 

\*

**Operating Income Grows from \$0.2 Million to \$2.2 Million** 

\*

Quarterly Earnings Improve from \$0.02 Per Share to \$0.16 Per Share

\*

2007 Earnings Guidance Raised to \$0.45 per share

Lincoln, RI - October 24, 2007 - A.T. Cross Company (AMEX: ATX)

today announced financial results for the third quarter and nine months ended September 29, 2007.

#### **Third Quarter Results**

Consolidated sales for the third quarter of 2007 increased 10.0% to \$35.1 million compared to \$31.9 million in the third quarter of 2006. The Cross Accessory Division, also referred to as the writing instruments and accessories segment, recorded revenue of \$26.3 million, up 3.9% compared to the same period last year. The Company's optical segment, comprised of Costa Del Mar, had a third quarter sales increase of 33.5% to \$8.8 million, compared to the same period last year.

Gross margin in the third quarter increased 330 basis points to 56.7%, compared to 53.4% in last year's third quarter, as both segments reported continued improvements in gross margins. Operating expenses were \$17.7 million, or 50.3% of sales in the quarter, versus \$16.8 million, or 52.7% of sales for the same period a year ago. Consolidated operating income in the third quarter was \$2.2 million, a \$2.0 million improvement compared to the operating profit of \$0.2 million in the third quarter of 2006.

Net income for the quarter was \$2.4 million, or \$0.16 per basic share, compared to \$0.3 million, or \$0.02 per basic share, last year. The income tax provision for the current quarter was favorably impacted by the recognition of tax benefits, the realization of which were previously considered uncertain. These tax benefits favorably impacted results by \$0.06 per share.

David G. Whalen, President and Chief Executive Officer of A.T. Cross said, "In the third quarter, we continued to transform A.T. Cross. We built upon the strength and momentum created in the first two quarters and accomplished what we needed to accomplish. Specifically, our Costa Del Mar business continued to excel and the Cross Accessory Division is prepared for what we expect will be a strong showing in the peak holiday period."

#### Nine Month Results

Consolidated sales in the first nine months of 2007 increased 10.8% to \$104.2 million compared to \$94.0 million in 2006. Cross Accessory Division revenue was \$74.9 million, up 3.3% compared to the same period last year. Costa Del Mar's net sales increased 36.4% to \$29.3 million compared to the same period last year.

Year to date, net income was \$3.5 million or \$0.23 per basic share, compared to \$0.6 million or \$0.04 per basic share, last year. The income tax provision for the current nine month period was favorably impacted by the recognition of tax benefits, the realization of which were previously considered uncertain. These tax benefits favorably impacted results by \$0.05 per share.

#### Guidance

The Company is establishing its 2007 revenue guidance at 8% to 9% growth and is now targeting 2007 earnings per share at \$0.41, exclusive of the projected favorable impact of the tax benefits previously described, which will favorably impact 2007 results by \$0.04 per share. This compares to the previous 2007 guidance of \$0.37 - \$0.40 per share.

#### Conference Call

The Company's management will host a conference call tomorrow, October 25, 2007 at 8:30 AM Eastern Time. Parties interested in participating in the conference call may dial-in at (888) 820-9413, while international callers may dial-in at (913) 312-0957. A live webcast of the call will be accessible on the Company's website at <a href="https://www.cross.com">www.cross.com</a> or <a href="https://www.viavid.net">www.cross.com</a> or <a href="https://www.viavid.net">www.viavid.net</a>. The webcast will be archived for 30 days on these sites, while a telephone replay of the call will be available beginning at 11:30 AM Eastern Time on October 25, 2007 through November 1, 2007 at (888) 203-1112 or (719) 457-0820 for international callers, and entering the pass code of 4011502.

#### About A.T. Cross Company

Building on the rich tradition of its award-winning writing instruments and reputation for innovation and craftsmanship, A.T. Cross Company is a designer and marketer of branded personal and business accessories. Cross provides a range of distinctive products that appeal to a growing market of consumers seeking to enhance their image and facilitate their lifestyle. Cross products, including award-winning quality writing instruments, leather goods, timepieces, and business accessories and Costa Del Mar sunglasses, are distributed in retail and corporate gift channels worldwide. For more information, visit the A.T. Cross website at <a href="https://www.cross.com">www.cross.com</a> and the Costa Del Mar website at <a href="https://www.costadelmar.com">www.cross.com</a> and the Costa Del Mar website at <a href="https://www.costadelmar.com">www.costadelmar.com</a>.

Statements contained in this release that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (including but not limited to statements relating to the expected positive revenue and earnings performance of the Cross Accessory Division during the holiday season.) In addition, words such as "believes," "anticipates," "expects," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to consumers' and retailers' demand for the Company's existing and new writing instrument and extension products, retailers' support for the Company's merchandising initiatives, and the ability of the Company to match forecasts and production with consumer demand, and are not guarantees since there are inherent difficulties in predicting future results. Actual results could differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. The information contained in this document is as of October 24, 2007. The Company assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this document as a result of new information or future events or developments. Additional discussion of factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from management's expectations is contained in the Company's filings under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

(Tables to follow)

## A. T. CROSS COMPANY CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

(in thousands, except per share amounts) (unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 29,	September 30,	September 29,	September 30,
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Net sales	\$35,114	\$31,919	\$104,162	\$93,990
Cost of goods sold	<u>15,199</u>	<u>14,866</u>	<u>45,421</u>	<u>43,524</u>
Gross Profit	19,915	17,053	58,741	50,466
Selling, general and administrative expenses	15,501	14,627	47,842	42,775
Service and distribution costs	1,526	1,295	4,315	4,111
Research and development expenses	660	563	1,895	1,694
Restructuring charges	<u>(10</u> )	<u>352</u>	<u>285</u>	<u>1,169</u>
Operating Income	2,238	216	4,404	717
Interest and other income (expense)	<u>33</u>	<u>(143</u> )	<u>(233</u> )	<u>(156</u> )
Income Before Income Taxes	2,271	73	4,171	561
Income tax (benefit) provision	<u>(93</u> )	<u>(247</u> )	<u>694</u>	<u>(39</u> )
Net Income	<u>\$ 2,364</u>	<u>\$ 320</u>	<u>\$ 3,477</u>	<u>\$ 600</u>
Net Income per Share:				
Basic	<u>\$0.16</u>	<u>\$ 0.02</u>	<u>\$0.23</u>	<u>\$0.04</u>
Diluted	<u>\$0.15</u>	<u>\$ 0.02</u>	<u>\$0.22</u>	<u>\$0.04</u>
Weighted average shares outstanding:				
Basic	<u>15,044</u>	<u>14,707</u>	<u>14,905</u>	<u>14,697</u>
Diluted	<u>15,699</u>	<u>14,871</u>	<u>15,514</u>	<u>14,838</u>
	Three Months Ended		Nine Mon	ths Ended
	September 29,	September 30,	September 29,	September 30,
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Segment Data: Cross Accessory				
Net Sales	\$26,289	\$25,310	\$74,888	\$72,526
Operating Income (Loss)	740	(337)	(970)	(2,776)

Interest and Other Income (Expense)	49	(141)	(188)	(152)
Income (Loss) Before Income Taxes	789	(478)	(1,158)	(2,928)
Segment Data: Optical				
Net Sales	\$ 8,825	\$ 6,609	\$29,274	\$21,464
Operating Income	1,498	553	5,374	3,493
Interest and Other Expense	(16)	(2)	(45)	(4)
Income Before Income Taxes	1,482	551	5,329	3,489

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 29,	September 30,	September 29,	September 30,
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Cross Accessory Sales Data:				
Americas	\$11,823	\$12,810	\$32,235	\$34,004
Europe, Middle East and Africa	9,303	7,876	26,317	23,027
Asia Pacific	4,692	3,986	14,264	13,648
Other	<u>471</u>	<u>638</u>	<u>2,072</u>	<u>1,847</u>
Total Net Sales	<u>\$26,289</u>	\$25,310	<u>\$74,888</u>	<u>\$72,526</u>

# A. T. CROSS COMPANY CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in thousands, unaudited)

		<u>September 29, 2007</u>	September 30, 2006
Assets			
	Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,273	\$ 8,025
	Accounts receivable	25,889	23,396
	Inventories	38,975	28,870
	Deferred income taxes	5,107	6,361
	Other current assets	<u>7,956</u>	<u>4,469</u>
	Total Current Assets	85,200	71,121
	Property, plant and equipment, net	15,947	20,771
	Goodwill	7,288	7,288
	Intangibles and other assets	5,979	5,158
	Deferred income taxes	<u>8,980</u>	<u>5,355</u>
	Total Assets	<u>\$123,394</u>	<u>\$109,693</u>

#### Liabilities and Shareholders

#### ' Equity

Accounts payable and other current liabilities	\$ 23,760	\$ 22,345
Retirement plan obligations	2,269	<u>1,934</u>
Total Current Liabilities	26,029	24,279
Retirement plan obligations	6,744	9,851
Deferred gain on sale of real estate	4,432	0
Long-term debt, less current maturities	3,263	5,600
Other long-term liabilities	2,742	0
Accrued warranty costs	1,308	1,489
Shareholders	<u>78,876</u>	<u>68,474</u>
' equity		
Total Liabilities and Shareholders	<u>\$123,394</u>	\$109,693

#### For information at A.T. Cross contact:

Kevin F. Mahoney Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer (401) 335-8470 kmahoney@cross.com

#### **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, thereunto duly authorized.

#### A. T. CROSS COMPANY

(Registrant)

**KEVIN F. MAHONEY** 

(Kevin F. Mahoney) Vice President, Finance Chief Financial Officer

Date: October 24, 2007

<sup>&#</sup>x27; Equity