UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-Q

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[X] QUARTERLY REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
    SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
            For the quarterly period ended March 31, 1997
[ ] TRANSITION REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
    SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
            For the transition period from
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$\qquad$

``` to
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``` Commission File No. 33-92810
                    Programmer's Paradise, Inc.
                    (Name of issuer in its charter)
            Delaware 13-3136104
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
incorporation or organization)
1 1 6 3 \text { Shrewsbury Avenue, Shrewsbury, New Jersey 07702}
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)
Issuer's Telephone Number (908) 389-8950
Check whether the issuer (1) filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or \(15(\mathrm{~d})\) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 during the past 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes X No
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    Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of
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    Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of
    the issuer's classes of common stock as of the latest
the issuer's classes of common stock as of the latest
practicable date.
practicable date.
There were 4,808,198 outstanding shares of Common
There were 4,808,198 outstanding shares of Common
Stock, par value \$.01 per share, as of May 12, 1997.
Stock, par value \$.01 per share, as of May 12, 1997.
Page1

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PROGRAMMER'S PARADISE INC.
<TABLE>
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME
(Unaudited)
(In thousands, except per share data)
<CAPTION>
<S>
Net sales

Three months ended
March 31,
19971996
<C> <C>
\$38,940 \$25,961


1. The financial information included herein is unaudited; however, such information has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and reflects all adjustments, consisting solely of normal recurring adjustments which are, in the opinion of management, necessary for a fair statement of results for the interim periods. Operating results for the three month period ended March 31, 1997, are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ended December 31, 1997. For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's 1996 10-K filing dated March 28, 1997.
2. Assets and liabilities of the foreign subsidiaries, all of which are located in Europe, have been translated at current exchange rates, and related revenues and expenses have been translated at average rates of exchange in effect during the year. Resulting cumulative translation adjustments have been recorded as a separate component of stockholders' equity.
3. In February 1997, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 128, Earnings per Share, which is required to be adopted on December 31,1997 . At that time, the Company will be required to change the method currently used to compute earnings per share and to restate all prior periods. Under the new rquirements for calculating primary earnings per share, the dilutive effect of stock options will be excluded. The impact is expected to result in an increase in primary earnings per share for the first quarter ended March 31, 1997 and March 31, 1996 of $\$ 0.01$ and $\$ 0.00$ per share, respectively. The impact of Statement 128 on the calculation of fully diluted earnings per share for these quarters is not expected to be material.

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2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

Overview
The Company is a distributor of software, operating through three distribution channels-cataloging, corporate reseller and wholesale operations. Catalog operations include worldwide catalog sales, advertising and publishing. Corporate reseller operations include Corsoft, Inc. in the U.S. and ISP*D International Software Partners Gmbh ("ISP*D") in Munich, Germany, wholly owned subsidiaries of the Company, and ISP*F International Software Partners France ("ISP*F"), a majority owned company located in Paris, France. Wholesale operations include distribution to dealers and large resellers through Lifeboat Distribution Inc. in the U.S. and Lifeboat Associates Italia Srl ("Lifeboat Italy") in Milan, Italy, also subsidiaries of the Company.

The Company began European-based operations in the first quarter of 1993, when it acquired a controlling interest in Lifeboat Italy, a long-standing software distributor in Italy. In January and April 1994, the Company purchased the remaining ownership interest in Lifeboat Italy. In June 1994, the Company acquired a 90\% controlling interest in ISP*D, a large software only dealer and a leading independent supplier of Microsoft Select licenses and other software to many large German and Aus trian companies. In January 1995, the remaining 10\% interest in ISP*D was purchased by the Company. In late 1994, the Company organized a subsidiary in the United Kingdom to engage in catalog operations, and in December 1995 the Company acquired Systematika Limited ("System Science"), a leading reseller of technical software in the United Kingdom and the publisher of the popular System Science catalog. In January 1996, the Company formed ISP*F International Software Partners France SA ("ISP*F"), as a full service corporate reseller of PC software, based in Paris and majority owned by Programmers' Paradise France SARL. The Company is using its European-based operations as a platform for pan-European business development, including the distribution of local versions of its catalogs.
of the assets and business of The Software Developer's Company, Inc. ("SDC") related to The Programmer's Supershop ("TPS") catalog, inbound and outbound telemarketing, reseller operations, web site, and all of the operations of its German subsidiary. SDC had been the Company's largest direct mail competitor, offering a similar array of technical software.

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Results of Operations
The following table sets forth for the periods
indicated certain financial information derived from the
Company's consolidated statement of operations expressed as a
percentage of net sales.

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>
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Net Sales
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{March 31,} \\
\hline 1997 & 1996 \\
\hline <C> & <C> \\
\hline 100.0\% & 100.0\% \\
\hline 84.8 & 84.4 \\
\hline 15.2 & 15.6 \\
\hline 10.8 & 15.2 \\
\hline 0.6 & 0.1 \\
\hline 3.8 & 0.3 \\
\hline (0.1) & (0.7) \\
\hline 0.2 & - \\
\hline 3.7 & 1.0 \\
\hline (1.4) & (0.4) \\
\hline - & 0.3 \\
\hline 2.3\% & 0.9\% \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
</TABLE>
Net Sales
Net sales of the Company represents the gross consolidated revenue of the Company less returns. Although net sales consist primarily of sales of software, revenue from marketing services and advertising is also included within net sales. Net sales for the quarter ended March 31, 1997 increased by $\$ 12,980,000$, to $\$ 38,940,000$, or $50.0 \%$, over the quarter ended March 31, 1996.

The increase in net sales for the three months ended March 31, 1997 as compared to the same period in 1996 primarily reflects the growth of the Company's catalog and corporate reseller core businesses, in addition to the growth in revenues realized through the acquisition of the TPS business. Domestically, total sales increased by $71.7 \%$ for the three month period ended March 31, 1997 over the same period in 1996, of which approximately $54 \%$ related to revenues realized through the acquired TPS business. Catalog revenues increased by 75.0\% for the first quarter of 1997 as compared to the same period in 1996, reflecting increased catalog mailings during the quarter in addition to an improved outbound telemarketing effort. Domestic catalog mailings totaled approximately 1.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 1997, compared to approximately 1.1 million for the same period in 1996. Total sales in Europe increased by 33.4\% for the three months ended March 31, 1997 as compared to the same period in 1996. The growth in European sales can be primarily attributed to significantly higher corporate reseller sales in Germany, which increased by $68.0 \%$ during the first quarter of 1997 compared to the same prior year period.

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Gross Profit
Gross profit represents the difference between net sales and costs of sales. Cost of sales is composed primarily of amounts paid by the Company to publishers and vendors plus catalog printing and mailing costs. Publisher and vendor rebates are credited against cost of sales. For the three month period ended March 31, 1997, gross profit increased by $\$ 1,855,000$ over the previous year, primarily attributable to the higher revenues in the U.S. which was aided, in part, by the acquired TPS
business. As a percentage of sales, gross profit decreased by $0.4 \%$ for the three month period ended March 31, 1997 in comparison to the same period in 1996. This is due principally to a shift in channel mix during the quarter as Germany posted higher revenues within the lower margin corporate reseller business.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses
SG\&A expenses increased by $\$ 228,000$ for the three months ended March 31, 1997, compared to the same period in 1996, primarily reflecting the additional overhead associated with the TPS operations in the U.S. Offsetting this increase was the savings impact realized through the reduction of the abnormally high cost structure that was associated with the French subsidiary during the first quarter of 1996. As a percentage of net sales, SG\&A decreased by $4.5 \%$ for the three months ended March 31, 1997, compared to the same prior year period. This improvement reflects stronger cost controls as well as operating efficiencies realized from the addition of the TPS business.

Amortization Expense
Amortization expense increased by $\$ 198,000$ for the three months ended March 31, 1997, compared to the same periods in 1996, reflecting the amortization of the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of the SDC net assets acquired during 1996. The acquisition of substantially all of the net assets of SDC resulted in goodwill of approximately $\$ 10.0$ million which is being amortized over a period of 15 years.

Interest Income and Expense

Net interest income decreased for the three months ended March 31, 1997 by $\$ 158,000$ compared to the same period in the previous year, primarily reflecting the use of the Company's funds to acquire substantially all of the assets of SDC. These funds had been invested in high grade, short term interest bearing securities during the first quarter of 1996. At March 31, 1997, interest income on short term investments was \$39,000 for the three months then ended, compared to interest income of \$203,000 earned during the three months ended March 31, 1996.

Income Taxes
Income tax expense was $\$ 566,000$ for the three months ended March 31, 1997, compared to $\$ 106,000$ in the same period in 1996. This primarily reflects higher tax provisions in the U.S. and in Germany resulting from increased earnings at those operations during the first quarter of 1997 in comparison to the same period in the prior year.

Minority Interest
Minority interest represents the share of the operating loss of ISP*F related to the $49 \%$ stock ownership, which was not owned by the Company at March 31, 1996. An additional equity contribution was subsequently funded in October 1996 as part of a reorganization and adjustment in minority ownership to $28 \%$. Operating losses for ISP*F are offset against minority interest. Because the cumulative operating losses for ISP*F have exceeded minority interest, there was no minority interest benefit recognized during the first quarter of 1997.

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Net Income
Net income was $\$ 885,000$ or $\$ .17$ per share on approximately $5,271,000$ weighted average common shares outstanding for the quarter ended March 31, 1997 compared to $\$ 241,000$ or $\$ .05$ per share on approximately $5,196,000$ weighted average common shares outstanding for the same period of 1996.

Liquidity and Capital Resources
The Company's primary capital needs have been to fund the working capital requirements created by its sales growth and to make acquisitions. The Company had cash and cash equivalents of approximately $\$ 21.1$ million at March 31, 1997.

Net cash provided from operations was approximately $\$ 5,438,000$ for the three months ended March 31, 1997 compared with $\$ 1,296,000$ of cash used for operating activities in the same period of the previous year. For the first quarter of 1997, cash
was provided from net earnings as well as net collections of accounts receivable, primarily in Germany and France, of which a significant portion related to Microsoft Select License billing. Offsetting this was a net reduction in accounts payable, as the Company chose to take advantage of vendor discounts through prepayments of new Microsoft product releases in the first quarter. For 1996, cash flow was primarily used to reduce accounts payable, specifically amounts due to Microsoft by ISP*D under the Microsoft Select License program, offset by decreases in accounts receivable and inventory.

Domestically, the Company has a secured, demand revolving line of credit, pursuant to which the Company may borrow up to $\$ 4.0$ million, based upon $80 \%$ of its eligible accounts receivable plus $50 \%$ of its eligible inventory, at a rate of interest of prime plus $.50 \%$. The credit facility is secured by all of the domestic assets of the Company and contains certain covenants which require the Company to maintain a minimum level of tangible net worth and working capital. In connection with the System Science acquisition, the Company has utilized approximately $\$ 1,275,000$ under the line of credit which was converted to a five year term loan bearing interest at LIBOR ( $6.62 \%$ at March 31, 1997) plus $2 \%$ of which $\$ 300,000$ is classified as a current liability.

The Company maintains a secured, demand revolving line of credit for its German subsidiary, pursuant to which it may borrow in deutschmarks up to DM 1,000,000 ( the equivalent of approximately $\$ 598,000$ at March 31, 1997), based upon its eligible accounts receivable and eligible inventory. Such credit facility is secured by ISP*D's accounts receivable and inventory, and the creditor is entitled to the benefit of a limited guarantee by the Company of up to DM 300,000 ( the equivalent of approximately $\$ 179,000$ at March 31, 1997). At March 31, 1997, there were no amounts outstanding under such line of credit.

The Company's Italian subsidiary, Lifeboat Italy, maintains banking arrangements with several Italian banks, pursuant to which it may borrow in lire on an unsecured, demand basis to finance its working capital requirements, through credit and overdrafting privileges, as well as receivables-based advances. The aggregate credit and overdraft limits of such arrangements at March 31, 1997 was Lit 3,200,000,000 (the equivalent of approximately $\$ 1.9$ million). At March 31, 1997, there was approximately Lit 239,000,000 (the equivalent of approximately $\$ 144,000$ ) outstanding under such credit facilities, bearing interest at rates ranging from 7.0\% to 8.0\%.

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The Company's subsidiary in France, ISP*F, maintains a demand revolving line of credit pursuant to which it may borrow up to FRF 2,000,000 (the equivalent of approximately $\$ 355,000$ at March 31, 1997), and is secured by its accounts receivable and inventory and a FRF 3,000,000 letter of credit. At March 31, 1997, approximately FRF 1,584,000 ( the equivalent of approximately $\$ 281,000$ ) of the line of credit was utilized, bearing interest at 6.78\%.

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PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K
(a) Exhibit 27 - Financial Data Schedule

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.

PROGRAMMER'S PARADISE, INC.

May 15, 1997
Date

By: /s/ John P. Broderick
John P. Broderick,
Chief Financial Officer,
Vice President of Finance and duly authorized officer

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## EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit
Number
27

Description of Exhibits

Financial Data Schedule

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15
$<T A B L E><S><C>$
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This schedule contains summary financial information extracted from SEC-Form
10-Q and is qualified in its entirety by reference to such financial statements.
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