
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-0

|X| QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2003

OR

|_| TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from $___$ to $___$

Commission file number Q4823

CONNECTICUT

06-0236700

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

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

1931 BLACK ROCK TURNPIKE, Fairfield, Connecticut

06825

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (203) 332-7330

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 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 |_|

Registrant had 3,298,551 shares outstanding as of July 18, 2003 of its \$2.50 par value Common Stock.

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ACME UNITED CORPORATION

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PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ACME UNITED CORPORATION

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (UNAUDITED)

(all amounts in thousands, except per share data)

	June 30 2003	December 31 2002
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 252	\$ 597
Accounts receivable, less allowance	9,447	6,410
Inventories:		
Finished goods	6,439	5,307
Work in process	452	374
Raw materials and supplies	889	994
	7,780	6,675
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	645	517
Deferred income taxes	127	733
Total current assets		14,932
Property, plant and equipment:		
Land		198
Buildings		2,302
Machinery and equipment		5,801
	7,992	8,301
Less accumulated depreciation	5 , 751	6,019
	2,241	2,282
Other assets	317	276
Deferred income taxes	26	
Goodwill	89	89
Total assets	\$ 20,924	\$ 17,614

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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ACME UNITED CORPORATION

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS - continued (UNAUDITED)

(all amounts in thousands, except per share data)

	June 30 2003	December 31 2002	
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities: Notes payable	\$ 208	\$ 362	
Accounts payable Other accrued liabilities Current portion of long-term debt	2,446 2,060 3,793	1,296 2,027 2,731	
Total current liabilities Long-term debt, less current portion	8,507 2,065	6,416 2,033	

Other	910	685
Total liabilities	11,482	9,134
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY Common stock, par value \$2.50: authorized 8,000,000 shares; issued 3,652,812 shares,		
including treasury stock	9,132	9,131
Treasury stock, at cost - 353,761 shares in 2003 and 269,061 shares in 2002 Additional paid-in capital Retained earnings Accumulated other comprehensive loss: Translation adjustment Minimum pension liability Derivative financial instrument	(1,450) 2,029 1,481 (801) (949)	(1,152) 2,029 788 (1,350) (949) (17)
	(1,750)	(2,316)
Total stockholders' equity	9,442	8,480
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 20,924	\$ 17,614

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

ACME UNITED CORPORATION

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

(unaudited)

(all amounts in thousands of dollars, except per share amounts)

	Three Months Ended June 30		Six Month June	30
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Net sales			\$ 17,331	
Costs and expenses: Cost of goods sold: Before inventory write-off related to restructuring Inventory write-off related to restructuring	6,221		10,528	
inventory write-orr related to restructuring	6,221			
Selling, general and administrative expenses Restructuring charges	2,906	359	10,528 5,206 -	359
	9,127	8,973		15,529
Income before non operating items Non operating items:	1,015	425	1,597	625
Interest expense Other (income) expense	72 (15)	163 37		(122)
Income before income taxes Income taxes	958 343	299 72	1,310 617	437 88
Net income Other comprehensive income:			693	349
Foreign currency translation Change in fair value of derivative financial instrument, net of income taxes of \$9 for the six-month period ended June 30, 2003 and \$19 for the three and	315	212	549	176
\$29 for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2002	-		17	
Comprehensive income	\$ 930 	\$ 453	\$ 1,259	\$ 570
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.18		\$ 0.21	
Diluted earnings per share			\$ 0.20	
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding- denominator used for basic per share computations Weighted average number of dilutive stock options	3,336	3,410	3,341	3,410
outstanding	184			
Denominator used for diluted per share computations	3,520 =======	3,599	3,478	

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements

	June 30		
	2003	2002	
Operating Activities:			
Net income	\$ 693	\$ 349	
Adjustments to reconcile net income			
to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Depreciation	204	231	
Amortization	13	60	
Deferred income taxes	615	-	
Non-cash restructuring charges	_	300	
Gain on disposals of property, plant, and equipment Changes in operating assets and liabilities:	(49)	-	
Accounts receivable	(2,720)	(3,558)	
Inventories	(793)		
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(77)	(545)	
Other assets	(87)	(21)	
Accounts payable	1,165	218	
Other accrued liabilities	(73)	(676)	
Other liabilities	181	-	
Total adjustments	(1,621)		
Net cash used in operating activities	(928)	(2,205)	
Investing Activities:			
Purchase of plant, property and equipment	(131)	(356)	
Purchase of patents and trademarks	(54)	_	
Proceeds from sale of equipment	50	-	
Net cash used in investing activities		(356)	
The section will be the			
Financing Activities:	1 100	2 542	
Net short-term borrowings Payments of long-term debt	(149)	2,543 (85)	
Purchase of 84,700 shares of common stock for treasury	(298)	(03)	
rurchase of 64,700 shares of common stock for treasury	(290)		
Net cash provided by financing activities	661 		
Effect of exchange rate changes	57	176	
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(345)	73	
	, ,		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	597 	172	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 252	\$ 245	

Six Months Ended

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements

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Notes to CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED Financial Statements

(UNAUDITED)

Note 1 -- Basis of Presentation

In the opinion of management, the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements include all adjustments necessary to present fairly the financial position, results of operations and cash flows. These adjustments are of a normal recurring nature. However, the financial statements do not include all of the disclosures normally required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States or those normally made in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K. Please refer to the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002 for such disclosures. The condensed consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2002 was derived from the audited consolidated balance sheet as of that date. The results of operations for interim periods are not

necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full year.

Note 2 -- Contingencies

The Company has been involved in certain environmental and other matters. Additionally, the Company is involved in one legal action relating to the use of certain latex products, which the Company distributes, but does not manufacture. The Company is one of many defendants in this suit, which is still in the preliminary stages and it has not been determined whether the Company's products were involved. Based on information available, the Company believes there will not be a material adverse impact on financial position, results of operations, or liquidity, from these matters, either individually or in aggregate.

Note 3 -- Restructuring Charges

During the second quarter of 2002, approximately \$565,000 was charged against earnings as a result of certain strategic and operating changes initiated by the Company's management related to liquidating Acme United Limited (AUL), a subsidiary located in the United Kingdom. The restructuring charges consisted of a write-down of inventory of \$206,000, accounting and legal costs of \$95,000, lease cancellation costs of \$90,000, write-off of goodwill of \$70,000, severance costs of \$60,000, other closing costs of \$19,000, write-off of uncollectible account receivable of \$15,000, and write-offs of equipment of \$10,000. Approximately \$39,000 and \$215,000 remained in accrued restructuring charges at June 30, 2003 and 2002, respectively.

Note 4 -- Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation

At June 30, 2003, the Company has one stock-based employee compensation plan. The Company has elected to adopt the disclosure only provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, and continues to measure costs for its employee stock compensation plans by using the accounting methods prescribed by APB Opinion No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees, which allows that no compensation cost be recognized unless the exercise price of the options granted is greater than the fair market value of the Company's stock at date of grant. Accordingly, no stock-based employee compensation cost is reflected in net income, as all options granted had an exercise price equal to the market value of the underlying common stock on the date of grant. The following table illustrates the effect on net income and earnings per share as if the Company had applied the fair value method under SFAS No. 123, Accounting for Stock Based Compensation, to stock-based employee compensation:

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	Three Months Ended June 30		Six Months Ended June 30	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
Net income, as reported Deduct: Total stock-based employee compensation expense determined under fair value based method for all awards, net of related income	\$ 614,998	\$ 227,198	\$ 692,832	\$ 348,901
tax effects	35,477	32,858	50,770	51,374
Pro forma net income	\$ 579 , 521	\$ 194,340	\$ 642,062	\$ 297,527
Basic-as reported Basic-pro forma	\$ 0.18 0.17	\$ 0.07 0.06	\$ 0.21 0.19	\$ 0.10 0.09
Diluted-as reported Diluted-pro forma	\$ 0.17 0.16	\$ 0.06 0.05	\$ 0.20 0.18	\$ 0.10 0.08

Note 5 -- Litigation Settlement

As a result of significant developments in the first quarter of 2003, the Company's German subsidiary settled litigation for \$175,000. This amount exceeded previous accruals by \$153,000 and was charged to expense in the first quarter of 2003.

In 2002, the Company recognized a significant one-time income tax benefit associated with liquidating its UK business. The benefit recognized was substantially in excess of income taxes computed at the statutory rate. In 2003, increased losses from the European subsidiary resulted in a high effective income tax rate.

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF

FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

For the Three and Six Months Ended June 30, 2003

Net Sales

Traditionally, the Company's sales are stronger in the second and third quarters and weaker in the first and fourth quarters of the fiscal year due to the seasonal nature of the business specific to the back-to-school season. Consolidated net sales for the quarter ended June 30, 2003 were \$10,142,000 compared with \$9,398,000 for 2002, an 8% increase. Net sales for the first six months of 2003 were \$17,331,000 compared with \$16,153,000 for 2002, a 7% increase. Excluding the favorable effect of currency gains in Canada and Europe net sales for the first six months increased 5%. The sales increase was mainly driven by growth in the U.S. due to the success of new product launches. International sales were down 3% in local currency principally due to discontinuing certain product lines in the UK business and a generally weak economy in Germany.

Gross Profit

The gross profit for the second quarter of 2003 was \$3,921,000 (38.7% of net sales) compared to \$3,371,000 (35.9% of net sales) for the second quarter of 2002. This comparison excludes the 2002 inventory write-down associated with the Acme United Limited (AUL) liquidation (See Special Event below). Gross profit for the first six months of 2003 was 39.3% of net sales compared to 34.1% in the same period of 2002. The introduction of new products coupled with improved product mix in the U.S., positive impacts from product rationalization efforts in Europe and overall productivity gains were the main reasons for the improved gross margins.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative ("SG&A") expenses for the second quarter of 2003 were \$2,906,000 (28.7% of net sales) compared with \$2,381,000 (25.3% of net sales) for the same period of 2002, an increase of \$545,000. SG&A expenses were 30.0% of net sales for the first six months of 2003 versus 26.8% in the comparable period of 2002. Major contributors to the increase were market research, new product development and the addition of sales executives in Canada and Europe.

Interest Expense

Interest expense for the first six months of 2003 was \$152,000, compared with \$310,000 for 2002, a \$158,000 decrease. This is mainly attributable to the decline in debt and lower interest rates. Total debt declined to \$6,066,000 million at June 30, 2003 compared to \$8,174,000 million at June 30, 2002.

Other Expense

Net other expense was \$135,000 in the first six months of 2003 compared to net other income of \$122,000 in the first six months of 2002. The change from 2002 primarily relates to the settlement of a \$175,000 lawsuit in Germany in March of 2003 and the gain on sale of equipment in 2002.

Income Before Income Taxes

Income before income taxes was \$958,000 in the second quarter of 2003 compared

with \$299,000 in the second quarter of 2002, an increase of \$659,000. Excluding restructuring costs associated with the AUL liquidation in the second quarter of 2002, pretax income increased by \$94,000, or 11%. Income before income taxes was \$1,310,000 for the first six months of 2003 compared with \$437,000 in the first six months of 2002. Pretax income for the U.S. business was \$1,644,000 compared to \$1,283,000 in 2002. The European operations lost \$451,000 including a one-time expense of \$175,000 for settlement of a lawsuit. Excluding restructuring charges, the pretax loss in Europe for the first six months of 2002 was \$281,000.

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Income Taxes

Income tax expense for the second quarter of 2003 was \$343,000 compared to \$72,000 in the second quarter of 2002. Income tax expense for the first six months of 2003 was \$617,000 compared to \$88,000 in the first six months of 2002. In 2002, the Company recognized a significant one-time income tax benefit associated with liquidating its UK business. The benefit recognized was substantially in excess of income taxes computed at the statutory rate. In 2003, increased losses from the European subsidiary resulted in a high effective income tax rate.

Net Income

Net income for the second quarter of 2003 was \$594,000, or 17 cents per share (diluted), compared to a net income of \$227,000, or 6 cents per share (diluted) for the same period of 2002. Net income for the first six months of 2003 was \$672,000, or 19 cents per share (diluted), compared to a net income of \$349,000, or 10 cents per share (diluted) for the same period of 2002.

Special Event

During the second quarter of 2002, the Company initiated liquidation procedures for AUL. Through June 2002, AUL recorded a net loss of approximately \$187,000, before one time restructuring charges of \$565,000. The restructuring charges were comprised mainly of severance, lease termination costs, and inventory write-offs. These losses were offset by tax benefits of approximately \$418,000 in the United States for the same period.

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF

FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS-Continued

For the Three and Six Months Ended June 30, 2003

Financial Condition

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company's working capital, current ratio and long-term debt to equity ratio follow:

	June 30, 2003	December 31, 2002
Working capital	\$9,744,000	\$8,516,000
Current ratio	2.15 to 1	2.33 to 1
Long-term debt to equity ratio	22.0%	24.0%

During the first six months of 2003, total bank debt increased by \$940,000 compared to total debt at December 31, 2002, principally as a result of net additional short-term borrowings to fund inventory purchases in anticipation of next quarter's seasonal sales volume.

The Company has a revolving loan agreement, which allows for borrowings up to a maximum of \$10,000,000\$ based on a formula, which applies specific percentages to

balances of accounts receivable and inventory. Interest is payable monthly and is charged at the LIBOR rate plus 1.75 percent. As of June 30, 2003, \$5,025,612 was outstanding and \$3,645,788 was available for borrowing under this agreement. Maturities of long-term debt follow: 2004 - \$2,913,000, 2005 - \$1,120,000, and 2006 - \$992,612. All outstanding borrowings are due on July 31, 2005.

Cash expected to be generated from operating activities, together with funds available under the existing loan agreement, are expected, under current conditions, to be sufficient to finance the Company's planned operations over the next twelve months. Over that same period, the Company does not expect to make significant investments in plant, property, and equipment.

Safe Harbor for Forward-looking Statements

Forward-looking statements in this report, including without limitation, statements related to the Company's plans, strategies, objectives, expectations, intentions and adequacy of resources, are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Investors are cautioned that such forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties including without limitation the following: (i) the Company's plans, strategies, objectives, expectations and intentions are subject to change at any time at the discretion of the Company; (ii) the Company's plans and results of operations will be affected by the Company's ability to manage its growth and inventory; and (iii) other risks and uncertainties indicated from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF

FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS-Continued

For the Three and Six Months Ended June 30, 2003

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk

There are no material changes in market risks since our most recent filing on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

(a) Evaluation of Internal Controls and Procedures

As of a date within 90 days prior to the date of the filing of this report, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have reviewed and evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures, which included inquiries made to certain other of our employees. Based on their evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have each concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective and sufficient to ensure that we record, process, summarize and report information required to be disclosed by us in our periodic reports filed under the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms.

(b) Changes in Internal Controls

Subsequent to the date of their evaluation, there have not been any significant changes in our internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect these controls, including any corrective action with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

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PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1 -- Legal Proceedings

None.

Item 2 -- Changes in Securities

None.

Item 3. --Defaults Upon Senior Management

None

Item 4 -- Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

None

Item 5 -- Other Information

None.

Item 6 -- Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

Exhibit 99.1 Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

Form 8-K was filed by the Company on July 18, 2003.

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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.

ACME UNITED CORPORATION

By /s/ WALTER C. JOHNSEN

Walter C. Johnsen
President and
Chief Executive Officer

Dated: July 18, 2003

By /s/ PAUL G. DRISCOLL

Paul G. Driscoll
Vice President and

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Dated: July 18, 2003

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CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

- I, WALTER C. JOHNSEN, certify that:
 - 1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Acme United Corporation;

- 2. Based on my knowledge, this quarterly report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this quarterly report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this quarterly report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this quarterly report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14) for the registrant and have:
 - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this quarterly report is being reported;
 - b) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to filing date of this quarterly report June 30, 2003; and
 - c) presented in this quarterly report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures based on our evaluation as of June 30, 2003;
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors:
 - a) all significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls which could adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data and have identified for the registrant's auditors any material weaknesses in internal controls; and
 - any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have significant role in the registrant's internal controls; and
- 6. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have indicated in this quarterly report whether there were significant changes in internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls subsequent to the date of our most recent evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

By /s/ WALTER C. JOHNSEN

Walter C. Johnsen
President and
Chief Executive Officer

Dated: July 18, 2003

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CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 302 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

- I, PAUL G. DRISCOLL, certify that:
 - 1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Acme United Corporation;
 - 2. Based on my knowledge, this quarterly report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this quarterly report;

- Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this quarterly report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this quarterly report;
- The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left(1\right) +\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left($ defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14) for the registrant and have:
 - designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this quarterly report is being reported;
 - evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure b) controls and procedures as of a date 90 days prior to filing date of this quarterly report June 30, 2003; and
 - presented in this quarterly report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures based on our evaluation as of June 30, 2003;
- The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors:
 - all significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls which could adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data and have identified for the registrant's auditors any material weaknesses in internal controls; and
 - any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have significant role in the registrant's internal controls; and
- The registrant's other certifying officers and I have indicated in this quarterly report whether there were significant changes in internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls subsequent to the date of our most recent evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

/s/ PAUL G. DRISCOLL Ву

> ______ Paul G. Driscoll Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Dated: July 18, 2003

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Exhibit 99.1

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

The undersigned officer of Acme United Corporation (the "Company") hereby certifies to my knowledge that the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2003 (the "Report"), as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof, fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(b), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and that the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company. This certification is provided solely pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, and shall not be deemed to be a part of the Report or "filed" for any purpose whatsoever.

By /s/ WALTER C. JOHNSEN

Walter C. Johnsen President and

Chief Executive Officer

Dated: July 18, 2003

By /s/ PAUL G. DRISCOLL

Paul G. Driscoll Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Dated: July 18, 2003