# 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): January 8, 2009

# **ULTA SALON, COSMETICS & FRAGRANCE, INC.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) **001-33764** (Commission File Number) **36-3685240** (IRS Employer Identification No.)

1000 Remington Blvd., Suite 120 Bolingbrook, Illinois 60440

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (630) 410-4800

Not Applicable

(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:

□ 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))

The information in this report, including the Exhibit attached hereto, is furnished solely pursuant to Item 7.01 of this Form 8-K. Consequently, it shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

## Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On January 8, 2009, Ulta Salon, Cosmetics & Fragrance, Inc. issued a press release regarding its holiday sales results for the seven-week holiday period from November 16, 2008 to January 3, 2009 and updated fourth quarter and fiscal 2008 guidance. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

#### (d) Exhibits

Exhibit No.Description99.1Press release issued by Ulta Salon, Cosmetics & Fragrance, Inc. on January 8, 2009 announcing holiday sales results furnished herewith.

#### SIGNATURES

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

ULTA SALON, COSMETICS & FRAGRANCE, INC.

Date: January 8, 2009

By: <u>/s/ Robert S. Guttman</u> Robert S. Guttman Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary Exhibit No.

Description

99.1 Press release issued by Ulta Salon, Cosmetics & Fragrance, Inc. on January 8, 2009 announcing holiday sales results furnished herewith.



Company Contact: Gregg Bodnar Chief Financial Officer (630) 410-4633

Investors/Media Contacts: Integrated Corporate Relations Allison Malkin/Alecia Pulman (203) 682-8225/(646) 277-1220

### ULTA ANNOUNCES HOLIDAY SALES RESULTS Updates Fourth Quarter and Fiscal 2008 Guidance

Romeoville, IL (January 8, 2009) — Ulta Salon, Cosmetics & Fragrance, Inc. (the "Company") (NASDAQ: ULTA) today announced sales results for the seven-week holiday period from November 16, 2008 to January 3, 2009. This time period corresponds with the Company's holiday marketing initiatives and represents the seven full weeks beginning the week before Thanksgiving through the end of the week following Christmas.

Total net sales for the seven-week holiday period were \$221.9 million, a 10.0% increase from the prior year holiday period of \$201.7 million. Comparable store sales for the holiday period decreased 5.8%, as compared to a 4.6% increase during the same period in the prior year.

Lyn Kirby, Ulta's President and Chief Executive Officer, stated: "We were on track during the early weeks of the fourth quarter to deliver to our guidance, however, we experienced a significant drop in customer traffic in the 10 key selling days leading up to Christmas. We believe that the unprecedented level of discounting and promotion in the apparel category in the last days before Christmas resulted in consumers favoring apparel. Additionally, our customer traffic was negatively impacted by the unusually bad weather just prior to Christmas. In response to the unprecedented discounting, we implemented additional promotional activity in late December, but we determined that any further, more aggressive investment would not be productive and instead would negatively impact earnings. Given these circumstances, we continue to manage expenses and inventory and expect to end the year with inventory on a comparable store basis to be flat with prior year-end."

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"So far, in the 13 days post-Christmas, our business has rebounded to solid positive comps which we believe is due to the consumable nature of our category, and that our value proposition and marketing strategies remain attractive to our customers given that we did not participate in the unprecedented discounting during the holiday season. However, we also believe it is prudent to continue to remain cautious given the economic environment and have revised our guidance accordingly," Ms. Kirby continued. "We are disappointed to reduce our fourth quarter guidance, but continue to believe in the strength of our long term strategy. We expect that our value proposition, marketing strategies, compelling brands and inviting in-store experience are clear advantages in a tough economy. We believe that this economic environment return on investment. We have the financial flexibility to invest in market share strategies and square footage expansion and now is the time to utilize this strength to position us for greater growth as the economy stabilizes," Ms. Kirby concluded.

#### Outlook

Given the holiday sales performance, the Company is updating its fourth quarter and fiscal year 2008 guidance.

For the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008, the Company currently estimates net sales in the range of \$339 million to \$343 million, which compares to its previous fourth quarter net sales guidance in the range of \$354 million to \$368 million and versus actual fourth quarter fiscal 2007 net sales of \$309.3 million. Comparable store sales are currently expected to be in the range of minus 6.0% to minus 5.0%, compared to its previous guidance of minus 2% to plus 2% and compared to an increase of 4.5% in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007. Income per diluted share is currently estimated in the range of \$0.18 to \$0.19, as compared to its previous guidance for fourth quarter income per diluted share in the range of \$0.24 to \$0.28 and versus actual fourth quarter fiscal 2007 income per diluted share of \$0.23.

For the full year fiscal 2008, the Company currently estimates net sales in the range of \$1.082 billion to \$1.086 billion, as compared to its previous guidance of net sales in the range of \$1.1 billion to \$1.11 billion and versus actual fiscal 2007 net sales of \$912.1 million. Comparable store sales are currently expected to be flat to plus 0.4%, compared to a 6.4% increase last year. Income per diluted share is currently estimated in the range of \$0.41 to \$0.42, compared to its previous guidance for income per diluted share of \$0.47 to \$0.51. The Company's full year guidance excludes the \$0.01 per share severance expense.



#### About Ulta

Ulta is the largest beauty retailer that provides one-stop shopping for prestige, mass and salon products and salon services in the United States. Ulta provides affordable indulgence to its customers by combining the product breadth, value and convenience of a beauty superstore with the distinctive environment and experience of a specialty retailer. Ulta offers a unique combination of over 21,000 prestige and mass beauty products across the categories of cosmetics, fragrance, haircare, skincare, bath and body products and salon styling tools, as well as salon haircare products. Ulta also offers a full-service salon in all of its stores. The Company currently operates 304 retail stores across 35 states and also distributes its products through the Company's website: www.ulta.com.

#### Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which reflect our current views with respect to, among other things, future events and financial performance. You can identify these forward-looking statements by the use of forward-looking words such as "outlook," "believes," "expects," "plans," "estimates," or other comparable words. Any forward-looking statements contained in this press release are based upon our historical performance and on current plans, estimates and expectations. The inclusion of this forward-looking information should not be regarded as a representation by us or any other person that the future plans, estimates or expectations contemplated by us will be achieved. Such forward-looking statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties, which include, without limitation: the impact of weakness in the economy; changes in the overall level of consumer spending; changes in the wholesale cost of our products; the possibility that we may be unable to compete effectively in our highly competitive markets; the possibility that our continued opening of new stores could strain our resources and have a material adverse effect on our business and financial performance; the possibility that new store openings may be impacted by developer or co-tenant issues; the possibility of material disruptions to our information systems; weather conditions that could negatively impact sales and other risk factors detailed in our public filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), including risk factors contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended February 2, 2008. Our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), the Company does not undertake to publicly update or revise its forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new stores code strain our soft.

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