

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORP
Form 8-K
February 25, 2016

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

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

Date of Report: **February 25, 2016**

(Date of earliest event reported)

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES
CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New York
(State of Incorporation)

1-2360
(Commission File Number)

13-0871985
(IRS employer Identification No.)

ARMONK, NEW YORK
(Address of principal executive offices)

10504
(Zip Code)

914-499-1900

(Registrant's telephone number)

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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:

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

 - o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

 - o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

 - o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 7.01 (Regulation FD Disclosure)

Attachment I contains IBM's Chief Financial Officer Martin Schroeter's presentation materials for IBM's Investor Briefing on February 25, 2016, which includes supplementary materials about non-GAAP financial measures in the presentation. Attachment II contains additional information about this presentation that has been posted on IBM's Investor Relations website (www.ibm.com/investor/). Attachments I and II are hereby filed.

These materials may contain forward-looking statements under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which statements involve numerous factors that could cause actual results to differ materially. Additional information about those factors is contained in IBM's filings with the SEC, available from the SEC, IBM's web site or IBM's Investor Relations.

IBM's web site (www.ibm.com) contains a significant amount of information about IBM, including financial and other information for investors (www.ibm.com/investor/). IBM encourages investors to visit its various web sites from time to time, as information is updated and new information is posted.

SIGNATURE

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.

Date: February 25, 2016

By: /s/ Stanley J. Sutula III
Stanley J. Sutula III
Vice President and Controller
(Chief Accounting Officer)

IBM Updates Reporting Segments
IBM Emerging as a Cognitive Solutions and Cloud Platform Company

25 February 2016

IBM has been transforming its business, addressing the evolving needs of its clients, while continuing to support their most critical business processes. During IBM's investor briefing on February 25, Ginni Rometty and the senior management team discussed the progress of the company's transformation, and described how IBM is becoming more than a hardware, software and services company; it is emerging as a cognitive solutions and cloud platform company. Information on the event is available on IBM's investor website at <http://www.ibm.com/investor/events/investor0216.html>

To support this transformation, the company has made a number of changes to its management system and organizational structure. Segment reporting reflects the way the company analyzes business results and allocates resources. With the management system and organizational changes, IBM is updating its reported segments, effective January 1, 2016. To be clear, there is no change to IBM consolidated results.

Primary Changes

The primary changes are driven by realignment of IBM's software portfolio, as software value shifts to new areas.

- The company has created a cognitive solutions business. This encompasses the solutions units addressing many of the strategic areas, including analytics, commerce and security, several of the new initiatives around Watson, Watson Health, Watson IoT, and Transaction Processing software. Many of these are new opportunity areas, opening up incremental revenue and profit pools.
- Integration software, including WebSphere, has been brought together with IBM's cloud infrastructure and platform capabilities and Global Technology Service, reflecting the importance of integration software to enterprise-grade hybrid clouds.
- Operating systems have been more closely aligned with the underlying hardware platforms.

The company has also realigned a portion of the software support revenue, which was previously reported in the Integrated Technology Services line of Global Technology Services, to the underlying software product areas. In addition, the company has also changed the allocation of some expenses between segments to better reflect the current portfolio structure.

The company has also evolved the management system *within* some of its businesses, as it addresses the changing business environment.

Summary of Segment Changes

The company will report revenue and pre-tax income for each segment. Revenue will be reported by the line items noted in the table above. This better reflects the way the business is managed today, and is a more contemporary presentation of results.

External gross profit and gross profit margin will continue to be reported by segment. In the case of Technology Services & Cloud Platforms, the company will also provide a view of the services and software gross margins. Similarly, for the Systems segment, the company will report hardware and software gross margins.

While the Software segment will no longer exist as a stand-alone unit, the software revenue is clearly visible within the Technology Services & Cloud Platforms, Cognitive Solutions, and Systems segments. Given the current focus on IBM's software revenue performance, the company

will continue to report total software revenue performance throughout 2016.

In addition, the company plans to provide additional information on its strategic imperatives by segment.

The net effect is alignment with IBM's current management system, and provides investors with additional transparency on the drivers of our business.

What to Expect Over the Next 2 Months

Today, the company is providing an overview of the new reported segments, and how they relate to the prior segments. Before the end of March, the company will provide a view of the segment results for 2014 and 2015 by quarter, so that investors may update their historical models. The company will report on the new reporting basis starting with first quarter 2016 results in April.
