

=====

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 (Date of earliest event reported): December 8, 1999

THE COOPER COMPANIES, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

1-8597
(Commission File Number)

94-2657368
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

6140 Stoneridge Mall Road, Suite 590, Pleasanton, California 94588
(Address of principal executive offices)

(925) 460-3600
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

=====

ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS.

On December 8, 1999, The Cooper Companies, Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release announcing that its CooperSurgical ("CSI") unit had completed the purchase of a group of women's health care products from BEI Medical Systems Company, Inc. (NASDAQ: BMED).

On December 13, 1999, the Company issued a press release announcing its fiscal fourth quarter and 1999 results.

On December 14, 1999, the Company issued a press release announcing that CSI had agreed to purchase certain assets of Leisegang Medical, Inc., a leading designed and manufacturer of precision instrumentation for the women's healthcare market.

These three press releases are filed as exhibits to and incorporated by reference into this report.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(c) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Description
- - - - -	- - - - -
99.1	Press Release dated December 8, 1999 of The Cooper Companies, Inc.
99.2	Press Release dated December 13, 1999 of The Cooper Companies, Inc.
99.3	Press Release dated December 14, 1999 of The Cooper Companies, Inc.

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.

THE COOPER COMPANIES, INC.

By /s/ Stephen C. Whiteford

Stephen C. Whiteford
Vice President and
Corporate Controller
(Principal Accounting Officer)

Dated: December 17, 1999

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. ---	Description -----	Sequentially Numbered Page -----
99.1	Press Release dated December 8, 1999 of The Cooper Companies, Inc.	
99.2	Press Release dated December 13, 1999 of The Cooper Companies, Inc.	
99.3	Press Release dated December 14, 1999 of The Cooper Companies, Inc.	

STATEMENT OF DIFFERENCES

The trademark symbol shall be expressed as.....'TM'
The registered trademark symbol shall be expressed as..... 'r'

[LETTERHEAD]

CONTACT:

EXHIBIT 99.1

Norris Battin

The Cooper Companies, Inc.

E-mail: nbattin@usa.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COOPER COMPANIES' UNIT COMPLETES ACQUISITION OF WOMEN'S
HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS

IRVINE, Calif., December 8, 1999 - The Cooper Companies, Inc. (NYSE/PCX: COO) announced today that its CooperSurgical (CSI) women's healthcare unit has completed the purchase of a group of women's healthcare products from BEI Medical Systems Company, Inc. (NASDAQ:BMED) for approximately \$10.5 million. The products generate annual revenue of about \$8 million. Cooper expects that the transaction will be accretive to fiscal 2000 earnings.

The acquired products include well-known brands of uterine manipulators and other products for the gynecological surgery market. Physicians use these products both in their offices and in hospitals. The majority of them are disposable.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. To identify forward-looking statements, look for words like "believes," "expects," "may," "will," "should," "seeks," "approximately," "intends," "plans," "estimates" or "anticipates", and similar words or phrases. Discussions of strategy, plans or intentions often contain forward-looking statements. These, and all forward-looking statements, necessarily depend on assumptions, data or methods that may be incorrect or imprecise.

Events, among others, that could cause actual results and future actions to differ materially from those described by or contemplated in the forward-looking statements include major changes in business conditions and the economy, loss of key senior management, major disruptions in the operations of Cooper's manufacturing facilities, new competitors or technologies, significant disruptions caused by third parties failing to address the year 2000 issue or by problems with our year 2000 compliance program, acquisition integration costs, foreign currency exchange exposure, investments in research and development and other start-up projects, dilution to earnings per share from acquisitions or issuing stock, regulatory issues, significant environmental clean-up costs above those already accrued, litigation costs, costs of business divestitures, and other factors described in Cooper's Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including the "Business" section in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended October 31, 1998.

Cooper cautions investors not to rely unduly on forward-looking statements. They reflect our analysis only on their stated date or the date of this press release.

The Cooper Companies, Inc. and its subsidiaries develop, manufacture and market specialty healthcare products. CooperSurgical, Inc., headquartered in Shelton, Conn., markets diagnostic products, surgical instruments and accessories for the gynecological market. CooperVision, Inc., headquartered in Irvine, Calif., with manufacturing facilities in Huntington Beach, Calif., Rochester, N.Y., Toronto, Canada and Hamble, England, markets a broad range of contact lenses for the vision care market. Corporate offices are located in Irvine and Pleasanton, Calif. A toll free interactive telephone system at 1-800-334-1986 provides stock quotes, recent press releases and financial data. cooper's web address is www.coopercos.com.

CONTACT:

EXHIBIT 99.2

Norris Battin

The Cooper Companies, Inc.

E-mail: nbattin@usa.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE COOPER COMPANIES REPORTS FISCAL FOURTH QUARTER
AND 1999 RESULTS

Fourth Quarter EPS More than Triples to 53 Cents
Toric Market Share Gains Continue

1999 EPS Up 69%; Revenue Rises 12%

IRVINE, Calif., Dec. 13, 1999 -- The Cooper Companies, Inc. (NYSE/PCX: COO) today reported results for its 1999 fourth quarter and fiscal year ended October 31, 1999. Revenue in the fourth quarter of 1999 was \$45.2 million, 11% above the fourth quarter of 1998. For the 1999 fiscal year, revenue increased 12% to \$165.3 million. Earnings per share from continuing operations for the fourth quarter of 1999 more than tripled to 53 cents versus a comparable fully taxed pro forma 16 cents in the fourth quarter of 1998. For the fiscal year, earnings per share from continuing operations were up 69% to \$1.54 compared with pro forma earnings of 91 cents per share reported for fiscal 1998.

Cash flow per share (pretax income from continuing operations plus depreciation and amortization) rose 136% to 92 cents, up from the 39 cents reported in the fourth quarter of 1998, and 46% to \$2.82 in fiscal 1999, up from \$1.93 for fiscal 1998. The tax rate for fiscal 1999 was 32.7%.

Commenting on Cooper's 1999 results, A. Thomas Bender, chief executive officer said, "This was a challenging but satisfying year for us. Specialty contact lenses continued to show strong growth with CooperVision's toric product lines leading the way. Our gross margins improved in each quarter, reaching 68% of revenue in the fourth quarter. In the worldwide contact lens market, however, the spherical lens segment continued to move toward commoditization, and some market observers exaggerated the negative effect of laser vision correction on contact lens usage, lowering the attractiveness of the industry to investors."

COOPERVISION (CVI)
Revenue and Market Share

CVI's worldwide core contact lens business - all revenue except OEM sales to other contact lens manufacturers - continues to outpace the global contact lens market. For the fourth quarter, CVI's core revenue grew 18%, and for the fiscal year is up 16%, well ahead of the estimated 6% global market growth. U.S. revenue, about two-thirds of CVI's worldwide contact lens business, grew 22% during the quarter and 18% for the fiscal year. OEM sales of \$2 million were down 38% in the quarter and fell 4% year to year.

COOPERVISION REVENUE ANALYSIS

Segment	Q4 1999	% Total	Change vs Q4 1998	Fiscal 1999	% Total	Change vs Fiscal 1998
U.S.	\$23.8	64%	22%	\$ 82.9	61%	18%
International	11.8	31%	10%	44.3	33%	11%
Core Business	35.6	95%	18%	127.2	94%	16%
OEM	2.0	5%	(38%)	8.8	6%	(4%)
Total	\$37.6	100%	12%	\$136.0	100%	14%

CVI's core product sales in the U.S. grew 22% in the fourth quarter and 18% in the fiscal year. In contrast, the U.S. contact lens market, as measured by the contact lens industry market research audit for the third calendar quarter, grew 4% during the first nine months of the calendar year. CVI believes that it gained almost a full market share point in the U.S. during this period. International core revenue--sales in countries outside the United States plus exports from the U.S.--grew 10% during the quarter and are up 11% over the prior year.

"We believe," said Bender, "that CVI leads all manufacturers of toric contact lenses in the U.S. with about 30% of the total toric market, five share points above our position at this time last year. CVI's total U.S. toric lens business grew 31% in the fourth quarter and 26% for the year, while the calendar nine-months toric market grew only 4%." Toric lenses accounted for about 18% of all U.S. contact lens revenue in the nine-month audit period ended September 30, 1999.

The disposable-planned replacement (DPR) toric market grew about 20% through September 1999 and continues to be the fastest growing category in the U.S. contact lens market. They now account for 61% of the toric category's revenue up from 52% at the same time last year. Of the \$32 million total revenue growth in the U.S. contact lens market so far this year, DPR torics account for about \$13 million, of which CVI's toric products account for about \$8 million.

During the fourth fiscal quarter, CVI's DPR torics grew 45% in the U.S. as Preference Toric, CVI's premium toric brand, and Frequency 55 Toric, positioned at a lower price point, both showed strong results. For the fiscal year, this business grew 41%. CVI believes that it leads the U.S. DPR toric sector with about 34% of the revenue generated, up from 29% a year ago.

U.S. sales of all DPR lenses--torics and spheres together--grew about 9% through the first nine calendar months, according to the latest market research audit. Sales of CVI's DPR lenses in the U.S. grew 42% over last year's fourth quarter, and were 38% ahead for the full year. DPR lenses represent 66% of CVI's U.S. volume and 75% of its worldwide revenue.

Worldwide, CVI's sales of conventional and DPR toric lenses grew 27% and represent 43% of total volume, up from 38% last year. While CVI's total worldwide spherical lens sales grew 5% over 1998, U.S. planned replacement spherical revenue, led by Frequency 55 Sphere, grew 32%. CVI's revenue from toric lenses and DPR spheres now represents 88% of its U.S. business versus 80% in 1998.

New Products

During the fourth quarter, CVI launched Frequency Aspheric in the U.S. market. This lens has an optical design that can improve low light or night vision in selected patients and correct low degrees of astigmatism without the need for a toric lens. CVI expects to introduce a low cost cast molded toric lens, Encore, in January 2000. Encore will compete in the disposable (two-week) toric segment.

Clinical trials continue on a high performance monthly planned replacement bifocal lens. "Any bifocal product we introduce," said Bender, "must meet stringent performance requirements before we introduce it. We must see a high level of success in patients who have been wearing the product for six months or longer."

Markets Outside the U.S.

CVI's Canadian and Italian businesses performed well in the fourth quarter, and the rollout of new products continued in Europe. These include CVI's line of toric lenses, the Frequency Aspheric lens and Frequency 55 UV, which contains an ultra violet light blocking agent. The cast molded toric product--called Frequency EXCEL--was introduced in November in Europe. During the fourth quarter, CVI added to its European infrastructure by acquiring a Swedish contact lens distributor that will serve the Scandinavian market. CVI now has six offshore business units serving major contact lens markets around the world.

In Japan, CVI's partner, Rohto Pharmaceuticals, Inc., continued the rollout of CVI spherical and toric lenses under the Rohto i.Q trade name. Rohto has purchased initial product inventory from CVI and has introduced the products using national television advertising. Initial market response has been encouraging and revenue is tracking above expectations.

Internet Marketing Initiative

Last week, CVI announced that it will add an e-commerce capability to its Internet website, www.coopervision.com. The new marketing initiative will inform consumers about CVI's advanced technology lenses and refer them to local contact lens practitioners who have registered on the CVI site. A second feature will allow practitioners to request CVI to ship lenses directly to their patients or order lenses directly for their own inventory. CVI expects that the new program will result in higher revenue, gross margins and operating income.

CooperVision Margins

CVI's gross margin in the fourth quarter was 68%, up from 67% in the third quarter, 65% in the second quarter and 63% in the first quarter as the sales mix shifted toward higher margin toric lenses and away from lower margin OEM sales. Cost reductions continue at CVI's U.K. manufacturing facility.

COOPERSURGICAL (CSI)

At Cooper's women's healthcare business, CooperSurgical, fourth quarter revenue grew 6% to \$7.6 million and was up 5% for the year to \$29.4 million. Due primarily to lower new product promotional expenses than last year, operating income for the quarter was four times last year's comparable period. CSI's fiscal 1999 operating margin was 15%, nearly twice the previous year's.

In December, CSI announced that it had completed the acquisition of a line of gynecological products with current annual revenue of about \$8 million from BEI Medical Systems Company, Inc. for about \$10.5 million cash. The products include well-known brands of uterine manipulators and other niche products for the gynecological surgery market. Physicians use these products both in their offices and in hospitals, and the majority of them are disposable. Cooper expects that the transaction will be accretive to earnings per share during fiscal 2000.

CSI recently received notification that the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) has assigned a specific reimbursement value to the amines portion of the FemExam'r' pH and Amines TestCard System'TM', an accurate, convenient point of care diagnostic test used to help determine if a vaginal infection is bacterial or fungal. The pH section of the card had a value assigned previously. HCFA will reimburse between \$10 and \$13 for both tests on the card. Third party insurers will use the HCFA value as a benchmark to set their own reimbursement values so that physicians who use the test can receive insurance coverage and bill electronically for it. CSI expects that insurers will make these determinations throughout 2000.

BUSINESS UNIT P&L HIGHLIGHTS (\$'s IN MILLIONS)

	Three Months Ended October 31, 1999							
	Revenue			Operating Income			% Revenue 1999	% Revenue 1998
	1999	1998	% Inc.	1999	1998	% Inc.		
----	----	-----	----	----	-----	----	----	
CVI	\$37.6	\$33.4	12%	\$12.9	\$8.4	55%	34%	25%
CSI	7.6	7.2	6%	1.3	.2	384%	17%	4%
	-----	-----		-----	-----			
Subtotal	45.2	40.6	11%	14.2	8.6	65%	31%	21%
HQ Expense	--	--		(1.8)	(2.0)	n/a		
	-----	-----		-----	-----			
TOTAL	\$45.2	\$40.6	11%	\$12.4	\$6.6	88%	27%	16%
	=====	=====		=====	=====			

	Fiscal Year Ended October 31, 1999							
	Revenue			Operating Income			% Revenue 1999	% Revenue 1998
	1999	1998	% Inc.	1999	1998	% Inc.		
----	----	-----	----	----	-----	----	----	
CVI	\$136.0	\$119.2	14%	\$40.8	\$34.6	18%	30%	29%
CSI	29.3	28.0	5%	4.3	2.1	103%	15%	8%
	-----	-----		-----	-----			
Subtotal	165.3	147.2	12%	45.1	36.7	23%	27%	25%
HQ Expense	--	--		(6.3)	(7.0)	n/a		
	-----	-----		-----	-----			
TOTAL	\$165.3	\$147.2	12%	\$38.8	\$29.7	31%	23%	20%
	=====	=====		=====	=====			

GLOBAL TAX PLAN

In the fourth quarter of fiscal 1998, Cooper recorded a large tax benefit, reflecting the remaining anticipated value of its then \$184 million of NOLs. As a result, Cooper now reports earnings as if it were a taxpayer with no NOLs. Cooper has implemented a global tax plan to minimize both the taxes reported in its income statement and the cash taxes paid. Based on a preliminary assessment, Cooper expects to reduce its effective tax rate to approximately 30% over the next several years compared with 32.7% for fiscal 1999. This plan may extend the cash flow benefits of the NOLs through 2003, assuming no acquisitions or stock issuances. During this period, Cooper expects to pay cash taxes of approximately 10% of pretax profits.

EARNINGS PER SHARE

All earnings per share figures in this report are diluted per share amounts.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. To identify forward-looking statements, look for words like "believes," "expects," "may," "will," "should," "seeks," "approximately," "intends," "plans," "estimates" or "anticipates", and similar words or phrases. Discussions of strategy, plans or intentions often contain forward-looking statements. These, and all forward-looking statements, necessarily depend on assumptions, data or methods that may be incorrect or imprecise.

Events, among others, that could cause actual results and future actions to differ materially from those described by or contemplated in the forward-looking statements include major changes in business conditions and the economy, loss of key senior management, major disruptions in the operations of Cooper's manufacturing facilities, new competitors or technologies, significant disruptions caused by third parties failing to address the year 2000 issue or by unanticipated problems with our year 2000 compliance program, acquisition integration costs, foreign currency exchange exposure, investments in research and development and other start-up projects, dilution to earnings per share from acquisitions or issuing stock, regulatory issues, significant environmental clean-up costs above those already accrued, litigation costs, costs of business divestitures, and other factors described in Cooper's Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including the "Business" section in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended October 31, 1998.

Cooper cautions investors not to rely unduly on forward-looking statements. They reflect our analysis only on their stated date or the date of this press release.

The Cooper Companies, Inc. and its subsidiaries develop, manufacture and market specialty healthcare products. CooperVision, Inc., headquartered in Irvine, Calif., with manufacturing facilities in Huntington Beach, Calif., Rochester, N.Y., Toronto, Canada, and Hamble, England, markets a broad range of contact lenses for the vision care market. CooperSurgical, Inc., headquartered in Shelton, Conn., markets diagnostic products, surgical instruments and accessories for the gynecological market. Corporate offices are located in Irvine and Pleasanton, Calif. A toll free interactive telephone system at 1-800-334-1986 provides stock quotes, recent press releases and financial data. Cooper's Internet address is www.coopercos.com.

NOTE: CONSISTENCY IN REPORTING COOPER'S COMPARATIVE EARNINGS PER SHARE DATA

In fiscal 1998, Cooper declared its mental health services business, Hospital Group of America, a discontinued operation. It also accounted for the remaining tax benefits that it expects from its existing net operating loss carryforwards and will, going forward, provide for income taxes rather than receive tax benefits. To avoid confusion, comparisons of Cooper's results from fiscal 1998 to fiscal 1999 and comparisons versus published estimates must be reported on a consistent basis. The table below shows diluted earnings per share from continuing operations on both a pretax and after-tax basis for the third quarter of fiscal 1999, the fourth quarter of fiscal 1999 and against the consensus analysts' estimates published by First Call Corporation on December 10, 1999, and the fourth quarter of fiscal 1998.

The Cooper Companies, Inc.
 EPS Comparisons
 From Continuing Operations

Reporting Basis -----	3Q 1999	4Q 1999		Variance	4Q 1998
	Actual	Actual	Analysts' Consensus		Actual
Pretax	\$.68	\$.78	\$.78	--	\$.26
After-tax	\$.46	\$.53	\$.52	\$.01	\$.16*(1)

*Pro forma

(1) For 1998, we calculated pro forma after-tax income by taxing income from continuing operations at 40% as if Cooper could not benefit from its net operating loss carry forwards. 1999 actual figures do not require this adjustment.

Frequency 55'r', Frequency Aspheric'TM', Frequency Excel'TM', Frequency Encore'TM' and Preference'r' are trademarks of The Cooper Companies, Inc. FemExam'r' pH and Amines TestCard System'TM' is a registered trademark of Litmus Concepts, Inc.

[FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOLLOW]

THE COOPER COMPANIES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income
(In thousands, except per share figures)
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended October 31,		Years Ended October 31,	
	1999	1998	1999	1998
Net sales	\$ 45,222	\$ 40,649	\$165,328	\$147,192
Cost of sales	15,303	16,587	59,009	55,764
Gross profit	29,919	24,062	106,319	91,428
Selling, general and administrative expense	15,922	16,008	61,734	56,226
Research and development expense	676	433	1,977	1,944
Amortization of intangibles	931	1,014	3,797	3,558
Operating income	12,390	6,607	38,811	29,700
Settlements of disputes, net	--	1,050	--	1,250
Interest expense	1,397	1,799	6,330	6,253
Other income, net	106	133	231	890
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	11,099	3,891	32,712	23,087
Provision for (benefit of) income taxes	3,579	(32,859)	10,711	(34,723)
Income from continuing operations	7,520	36,750	22,001	57,810
Discontinued operations:				
Net income	--	746	129	4,336
Gain (loss) on disposal	--	(22,300)	2,970	(22,300)
	--	(21,554)	3,099	(17,964)
Net income	\$ 7,520	\$ 15,196	\$ 25,100	\$ 39,846
Diluted earnings per share:				
Continuing operations	\$ 0.53	\$ 2.45	\$ 1.54	\$ 3.79
Discontinued operations	--	(1.44)	0.21	(1.18)
Earnings per share	\$ 0.53	\$ 1.01	\$ 1.75	\$ 2.61
Number of shares used to compute earnings per share:	14,299	14,978	14,312	15,269
Memo diluted per share data from continuing operations:				
Income before income taxes	\$ 0.78	\$ 0.26	\$ 2.29	\$ 1.51
Net income (1998 is pro forma)	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.16(1)	\$ 1.54	\$ 0.91(1)
Cash flow(2)	\$ 0.92	\$ 0.39	\$ 2.82	\$ 1.93

(1) Income from continuing operations has been tax effected at 40% as if the Company could not benefit from its net operating loss carry forwards. The 40% tax rate was applied to the 1998 periods' income from continuing operations before income taxes to arrive at pro forma net income. No adjustments to 1999 figures were required.

(2) Pretax income from continuing operations plus depreciation and amortization.

THE COOPER COMPANIES, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
Consolidated Condensed Balance Sheets
(In thousands)
(Unaudited)

	October 31, 1999 -----	October 31, 1998 -----
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 20,922	\$ 7,333
Trade receivables, net	26,792	24,426
Inventories	33,430	30,349
Deferred tax asset	11,638	15,057
Net assets of discontinued operations	--	29,206
Other current assets	7,679	9,706
	-----	-----
Total current assets	100,461	116,077
	-----	-----
Property, plant and equipment, net	40,319	34,234
Intangibles, net	80,518	84,308
Deferred tax asset	56,519	52,754
Other assets	8,056	8,668
	-----	-----
	\$285,873	\$296,041
	=====	=====
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Short-term debt	\$ 4,888	\$ 11,570
Other current liabilities	37,008	35,131
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities	41,896	46,701
	-----	-----
Long-term debt	57,067	78,677
Other liabilities	22,767	25,410
	-----	-----
Total liabilities	121,730	150,788
	-----	-----
Stockholders' equity	164,143	145,253
	-----	-----
	\$285,873	\$296,041
	=====	=====

###

[LETTERHEAD]

CONTACT:
Norris Battin
949-597-4700
nbattin@usa.net

EXHIBIT 99.3

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COOPER COMPANIES UNIT TO PURCHASE WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS

Second Recent Acquisition Will Drive CooperSurgical's
Annual Revenue Above \$50 Million

IRVINE, Calif., December 14, 1999 - The Cooper Companies, Inc. (NYSE/PCX: COO) announced today that its CooperSurgical (CSI) unit has agreed to purchase certain assets of Leisegang Medical, Inc., a leading designer and manufacturer of precision instrumentation for the women's healthcare market. Cooper will pay approximately \$10 million in cash for products with current annual revenue of about \$11 million. Leisegang Medical is a subsidiary of NetOptix Corporation (NASDAQ: OPTX).

Cooper expects the transaction to close in January 2000 and to be accretive to fiscal 2000 earnings.

Last week, CSI announced that it had completed the acquisition of a line of women's healthcare products from BEI medical Systems. With the addition of the two new product lines, CSI's annual revenue will exceed \$50 million.

Leisegang is a well-known and highly regarded women's healthcare company. It markets diagnostic and surgical instruments including colposcopes, instruments to perform loop electrosurgical excision procedures, hand held gynecological instruments, disposable specula and cryosurgical systems. Many of its products are disposable, including its Sani-Spec'r' line of disposable plastic specula, its largest product group. The acquisition will expand CSI's global presence, as it plans to market its line of gynecological products through Leisegang's German and Canadian subsidiaries.

Commenting on the upcoming acquisition, A. Thomas Bender, Cooper's chief executive officer said, "We are very excited to add such a globally recognized name and line of quality products to our family of women's healthcare products. Cooper's objective is to grow CSI to the \$100 million level in the next three to five years with operating margins exceeding 20%. The Leisegang product line will help us achieve that goal."

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. To identify forward-looking statements, look for words like "believes," "expects," "may," "will," "should," "seeks," "approximately," "intends," "plans," "estimates" or "anticipates", and similar words or phrases. Discussions of strategy, plans or intentions often contain forward-looking statements. These, and all forward-looking statements, necessarily depend on assumptions, data or methods that may be incorrect or imprecise.

Events, among others, that could cause actual results and future actions to differ materially from those described by or contemplated in the forward-looking statements include major changes in business conditions and the economy, loss of key senior management, major disruptions in the operations of Cooper's manufacturing facilities, new competitors or technologies, significant disruptions caused by third parties failing to address the year 2000 issue or by problems with our year 2000 compliance program, acquisition integration costs, foreign currency exchange exposure, investments in research and development and other start-up projects, dilution to earnings per share from acquisitions or issuing stock, regulatory issues, significant environmental clean-up costs above those already accrued, litigation costs, costs of business divestitures, and other factors described in Cooper's Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including the "Business" section in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended October 31, 1998. Cooper cautions investors not to rely unduly on forward-looking statements. They reflect our analysis only on their stated date or the date of this press release.

NetOptix Corporation is headquartered in Sturbridge, Massachusetts. The NetOptix web address is www.netoptix.com. Its OFC Corporation subsidiary designs, manufactures and markets a broad range of optical components and systems that incorporate recent advances in photonic technology and optical coating. OFC Corporation has manufacturing locations in Natick, Massachusetts, Keene, New Hampshire and Germany. Leisegang Medical, Leisegang GmbH and Galenica, Inc. are located in Boca Raton, Florida, Berlin, Germany and the Province of Quebec, Canada, respectively. Leisegang's web address is www.leisegang.com.

The Cooper Companies, Inc. and its subsidiaries develop, manufacture and market specialty healthcare products. CooperSurgical, Inc., headquartered in Shelton, Conn., markets diagnostic products, surgical instruments and accessories for the gynecological market. CooperVision, Inc., headquartered in Irvine, Calif., with manufacturing facilities in Huntington Beach, Calif., Rochester, N.Y., Toronto, Canada and Hamble, England, markets a broad range of contact lenses for the vision care market. Corporate offices are located in Irvine and Pleasanton, Calif. A toll free interactive telephone system at 1-800-334-1986 provides stock quotes, recent press releases and financial data. Cooper's web address is www.coopercos.com.

###