

ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS.

On August 15, 2000, CIENA Corporation announced the declaration of a 2-for-1 split of the common stock, par value \$.001 per share, of CIENA, to be effected by way of a stock dividend, of one share for each share held by holders of record on August 28, 2000. The distribution date is September 18, 2000. A copy of the press release issued on August 15, 2000 announcing the stock split is attached as an Exhibit hereto.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

- 99.1 Press Release, issued August 15, 2000 (announcing stock split)

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.

CIENA CORPORATION

Date: August 16, 2000

By: /s/ Michael O. McCarthy III

Michael O. McCarthy III
Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

EXHIBIT 99.1

Press Release Dated August 15, 2000

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CIENA Announces Two-for-One Stock Split

Linthicum, Md. - August 15, 2000 -- CIENA Corporation announced today that its Board of Directors has approved and declared a two-for-one stock split of the Company's common shares. Shareholders of record at the close of business on August 28, 2000 will receive a distribution of one new share for each share held. The distribution date for the split, being effected by way of a stock dividend, is September 18, 2000.

"CIENA continues to demonstrate its leadership in intelligent optical networking," said Patrick Nettles, CIENA's president and chief executive officer. "With six consecutive quarters of revenue growth and a share price which has increased more than four-fold in a year, a stock split will allow a broader base of investors to participate in this strong business momentum."

As of July 31, 2000, CIENA had 141,907,933 common shares outstanding. Upon completion of the split, the number will increase to 283,815,866 common shares outstanding.

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ABOUT CIENA

CIENA Corporation's market-leading intelligent optical networking systems form the core for the new era of networks and services worldwide. CIENA's LightWorks(tm) architecture enables next-generation optical services and changes the fundamental economics of service-provider networks by simplifying the network and reducing the cost to operate it. Additional information about CIENA can be found at .