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 (Date of earliest event reported): March 7, 2018

CRYOLIFE, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Florida 1-13165 59-2417093 (State or Other Jurisdiction (Commission File Number) (IRS Employer of Incorporation) Identification No.) 1655 Roberts Boulevard, N.W., Kennesaw, Georgia 30144 (Address of principal executive office) (zip code) Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (770) 419-3355 (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 (see General Instruction A.2. below): 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)) Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter). Emerging growth company \square If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. \Box

Section 2 Financial Information

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On March 7, 2018, CryoLife, Inc. ("CryoLife" or the "Company") issued a press release announcing its financial results for the year and quarter ended December 31, 2017. CryoLife hereby incorporates by reference herein the information set forth in its press release dated March 7, 2018, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1. Except as otherwise provided in the press release, the press release speaks only as of the date of such press release and it shall not create any implication that the affairs of CryoLife have continued unchanged since such date.

The information provided pursuant to this Item 2.02 is to be considered "furnished" pursuant to Item 2.02 of Form 8-K and shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section or Sections 11 and 12(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference into any of CryoLife's reports or filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, whether made before or after the date hereof, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such report or filing.

Except for the historical information contained in this report, the statements made by CryoLife are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. All such statements are subject to the safe harbor created by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. CryoLife's future financial performance could differ significantly from the expectations of management and from results expressed or implied in the press release. Please refer to the last paragraph of the text portion of the press release for further discussion about forward-looking statements. For further information on risk factors, please refer to "Risk Factors" contained in CryoLife's most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K and its subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, as well as in the press release attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto. CryoLife disclaims any obligation or duty to update or modify these forward-looking statements.

Section 9 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

Item 9.01(d) Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

<u>Exhibit Number</u> <u>Description</u>

99.1* Press Release dated March 7, 2018

^{*}This exhibit is furnished, not filed.

SIGNATURES

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

CRYOLIFE, INC.

Date: March 7, 2018

By: /s/ D. Ashley Lee

Name: D. Ashley Lee

Title: Executive Vice President, Chief

Operating Officer and Chief

Financial Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts:

CryoLife

D. Ashley Lee Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer Phone: 770-419-3355

The Ruth Group

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CryoLife Reports Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2017 Results

Fourth Quarter and Recent Business Highlights:

· Achieved fourth quarter revenues of \$52.8 million

- · Achieved double digit revenue growth on a percentage basis in BioGlue®, On-X, and tissue processing
- Recorded GAAP net loss of (\$3.0) million, or (\$0.09) per fully diluted common share; Non-GAAP net income of \$4.0 million, or \$0.11 per fully diluted common share
- Completed acquisition of JOTEC
- · Accelerated enrollment in BioGlue China and PerClot® clinical trials

ATLANTA, GA – (March 7, 2018) – CryoLife, Inc. (NYSE: CRY), a leading cardiac and vascular surgery company focused on aortic disease, announced today its financial results for the fourth quarter and full year ended December 31, 2017.

Pat Mackin, Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer, said, "We had a solid fourth quarter capping off a tremendously successful year for CryoLife. In the fourth quarter, we generated double digit revenue growth in BioGlue, On-X and tissue processing. We now sell direct in more countries than ever before with more geographies converting to direct sales shortly. As a result, we expanded our gross margin and, at the same time in the quarter, closed the JOTEC acquisition and made substantial progress on integration. Our On-X double digit revenue growth was even more impressive in the face of temporary disruptions in orders resulting from going direct in Spain, Italy, and Poland. Importantly, On-X's 24 percent year-over-year fourth quarter performance in North America further validates our direct sales strategy."

Mr. Mackin added, "In addition to maximizing the value of our existing product portfolio, we believe we are well-positioned to drive future growth from products in development. We have enrolled over 100 patients in the BioGlue China clinical trial and accelerated enrollment in the PerClot FDA clinical trial, with both trials on track for potential regulatory approval in the second half of 2019. Further, the acquisition of JOTEC brought us additional R&D expertise and an exciting and broad new product pipeline. If these products are approved, they should be growth drivers in the years to come. We also expect the combination of a 125 person sales force with our highly competitive products to drive strong performance in 2018 and beyond."

"2017 was a transformational year for CryoLife. We have never been more competitive than we are today, with a larger direct sales force and a larger addressable market opportunity, which positions us for years to come to accelerate significant growth and profitability," Mr. Mackin concluded.

Revenues for the fourth quarter of 2017 increased 17 percent to \$52.8 million, compared to \$45.0 million for the fourth quarter of 2016. The increase was primarily driven by double digit revenue growth on a percentage basis in BioGlue, On-X and tissue processing revenues, and \$4.1 million in revenues from JOTEC for the month of December 2017. Non-GAAP revenues for the fourth quarter of 2017 increased 8 percent compared to the fourth quarter of 2016.

Revenues for the full year of 2017 increased 5 percent to \$189.7 million, compared to \$180.4 million for the full year of 2016. The increase was primarily driven by increases in BioGlue, On-X and tissue processing revenues, and revenues from JOTEC for the month of December 2017. Non-GAAP revenues for the full year of 2017 increased 3 percent compared to the full year of 2016. A reconciliation of GAAP to non-GAAP financial metrics is included as part of this press release.

Net loss for the fourth quarter of 2017 was (\$3.0) million, or (\$0.09) per fully diluted common share, compared to net income of \$2.9 million, or \$0.09 per fully diluted common share for the fourth quarter of 2016. Non-GAAP net income for the fourth quarter of 2017 was \$4.0 million, or \$0.11 per fully diluted common share, compared to non-GAAP net income of \$4.1 million, or \$0.12 per fully diluted common share for the fourth quarter of 2016.

Net income for the full year of 2017 was \$3.7 million, or \$0.11 per fully diluted common share, compared to net income of \$10.8 million, or \$0.32 per fully diluted common share for the full year of 2016. Non-GAAP net income for the full year of 2017 was \$13.8 million, or \$0.40 per fully diluted common share, compared to non-GAAP net income of \$16.0 million, or \$0.48 per fully diluted common share for the full year of 2016.

The Company is issuing its full year 2018 financial guidance, as summarized below:

2018 Initial Financial Guidance Summary							
Total Revenues	\$250.0 million - \$256.0 million						
Gross Margins	65.5% - 66.5% (includes \$3.5 million non-cash charges related to acquired JOTEC inventory and distributor inventory buy backs)						
R&D Expenses	\$23.0 million - \$25.0 million						
Income Tax Rate	Mid 20% (excludes effect of nondeductible transaction costs and the tax effect of stock compensation expenses)						
Non-GAAP EPS	\$0.29 - \$0.32 (assumes approximately 37.5 million fully diluted shares outstanding and 25% effective tax rate)						

The Company also expects the following for the full year of 2018:

- Integration and related expenses of approximately \$4.0 million
- Depreciation expense between \$7.0 million and \$8.0 million
- · Amortization expense between \$11.0 million and \$12.0 million

· Interest expense between \$15.5 million and \$16.0 million.

All numbers in the table above are presented on a GAAP basis except where expressly referenced as non-GAAP. The Company does not provide GAAP income per common share on a forward-looking basis because the Company is unable to predict with reasonable certainty business development and acquisition-related expenses, purchase accounting fair value adjustments, and any unusual gains and losses without unreasonable effort. These items are uncertain, depend on various factors, and could be material to results computed in accordance with GAAP.

The Company's financial guidance for 2018 is subject to the risks identified below.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

This press release contains non-GAAP financial measures. Investors should consider this non-GAAP information in addition to, and not as a substitute for, financial measures prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. In addition, this non-GAAP financial information may not be the same as similar The Company's non-GAAP revenues include (as measures presented by other companies. applicable) On-X revenues for the period in 2016 prior to the closing of the acquisition and excludes revenues for the HeRO® Graft and ProCol® product lines for 2016 and excludes JOTEC revenues for The Company's other non-GAAP results exclude (as applicable) business December 2017. development expenses; gain on sale of business components; amortization expenses; and inventory basis step-up expense. The Company believes that these non-GAAP presentations provide useful information to investors regarding unusual non-operating transactions and the operating expense structure of the Company's existing and recently acquired operations, without regard to its on-going efforts to acquire additional complementary products and businesses and the transaction and integration expenses incurred in connection with recently acquired and divested product lines. The Company believes it is useful to exclude certain expenses because such amounts in any specific period may not directly correlate to the underlying performance of its business operations or can vary significantly between periods as a result of factors such as acquisitions, or non-cash expense related to amortization of previously acquired tangible and intangible assets. The Company does, however, expect to incur similar types of expenses in the future, and this non-GAAP financial information should not be viewed as a statement or indication that these types of expenses will not recur.

Webcast and Conference Call Information

The Company will hold a teleconference call and live webcast tomorrow, March 8, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. ET to discuss the results followed by a question and answer session hosted by Mr. Pat Mackin.

To listen to the live teleconference, please dial 201-689-8261 a few minutes prior to 8:00 a.m. ET. A replay of the teleconference will be available through March 15, and can be accessed by calling (toll free) 877-660-6853 or 201-612-7415. The conference number for the replay is 13676706.

Page **3** of **9**

The live webcast and replay can be accessed by going to the Investor Relations section of the CryoLife website at www.cryolife.com and selecting the heading Webcasts & Presentations.

About CryoLife, Inc.

Headquartered in suburban Atlanta, Georgia, CryoLife is a leader in the manufacturing, processing, and distribution of medical devices and implantable tissues used in cardiac and vascular surgical procedures focused on aortic repair. CryoLife markets and sells products in more than 90 countries worldwide. For additional information about CryoLife, visit our website, www.cryolife.com.

Statements made in this press release that look forward in time or that express management's beliefs, expectations, or hopes are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements reflect the views of management at the time such statements are made. These statements include our forecasted revenues, gross margins, R&D expenses, income tax rate and non-GAAP earnings per share; our forecasted integration and related expenses, depreciation expense, amortization expense and interest expense for 2018; our expectation that we will sell directly rather than through distributors in additional geographies and that this direct sales strategy is better than selling indirectly; our belief that we will maximize the value of our existing product portfolio and that we are well-positioned to drive future growth from our products in development; our belief that our BioGlue China clinical trial and our PerClot FDA clinical trial are on track for potential regulatory approval in the second half of 2019; our expectation that the JOTEC acquisition provides us with full and exciting new product pipeline and if these products are approved, they should be growth drivers in the years to come; our expectation that the combination of a 125 person direct sales force with our highly competitive products, will drive strong performance in 2018 and beyond; our expectation that 2017 will prove to be a transformational year; our belief that we have never been better more competitive than we are today, with a larger direct sales force and a larger addressable market opportunity, which positions us for years to come to accelerate significant growth and profitability. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties, estimates, and assumptions that may cause actual results to differ materially from current expectations. These risks and uncertainties include the risk factors detailed in our Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including our Form 10-K for year ended December 31, 2016 and Forms 10-Q for periods ended March 31, 2017, June 30, 2017 and September 30, 2017. These risks and uncertainties also include that our beliefs regarding the benefits of the JOTEC acquisition, including that this acquisition provides us with product portfolios that are technologically and clinically differentiated and offer strong competitive advantages, substantially enhance our growth potential and ability to drive profitable growth, strengthen our direct sales force, significantly accelerates our going direct strategy, increase our cross-selling opportunities, and significantly enhance our R&D capabilities and pipeline may be incorrect; our projections of markets sizes and revenue growth rates for our four product lines, clinical trial timelines and clearance or approval times for new products or new indications may be incorrect or may change over time. As with most acquisitions, the successful integration of JOTEC's businesses with ours may take longer and prove more costly than expected, and we may experience currently unforeseen difficulties related to the JOTEC products and our combined sales forces' ability to successfully market them. If we experience problems that slow the integration of JOTEC's business with CryoLife's business, we may not be able to secure the anticipated financial and operational benefits of the acquisition as soon as anticipated, or at all.

Page 4 of 9

We may also inherit unforeseen risks and uncertainties related to JOTEC's business, particularly if the information received by CryoLife during the due diligence phase of this transaction is incomplete or inaccurate. Our plans with respect to the transaction's financing could change based on currently unforeseen circumstances. CryoLife does not undertake to update its forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

Page 5 of 9

CRYOLIFE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES Financial Highlights (In thousands, except per share data)

	Three Months Ended December 31,				Twelve Months Ended December 31,				
		2017		2016		2017		2016	
Revenues: Products	\$	35,112	\$	28,925	\$	119,631	\$	113,992	
Preservation services		17,714		16,104		70,071		66,388	
Total revenues		52,826		45,029		189,702		180,380	
Cost of products and preservation services:									
Products		8,601		6,734		29,798		28,033	
Preservation services		7,862		7,100		31,262		33,448	
Total cost of products and									
preservation services		16,463		13,834		61,060		61,481	
Gross margin		36,363		31,195		128,642		118,899	
Operating expenses: General, administrative, and marketing		30,195		22,246		101,211		91,548	
Research and development		6,363		3,844		19,461		13,446	
Total operating expenses		36,558		26,090		120,672		104,994	
								(7,915)	
Gain from sale of business components Operating (loss) income		(195)		5,105		7.970		21,820	
cherming (rece) meeting		(200)		0,200		1,510			
Interest expense		2,396		787		4,881		3,043	
Interest income		(53)		(24)		(212)		(72)	
Other (income) expense, net		(190)		583		(260)		437	
(Loss) income before income taxes		(2,348)		3,759		3,561		18,412	
Încome tax expense (benefit)		659		862		(143)		7,634	
Net (loss) income	\$	(3,007)	\$	2,897	\$	3,704	\$	10,778	
(Loss) income per common share:									
Basic	\$	(.09)	\$.09	\$.11	\$.33	
Diluted	\$	(.09)	\$.09	\$.11	\$.32	
Weighted-average common shares outstanding:									
Basic		34,025		32,223		33,008		31,855	
Diluted		34,025		33,443		34,163		32,822	

Page 6 of 9

CRYOLIFE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES Financial Highlights (In thousands)

	Three Months Ended December 31,					Twelve Months Ended December 31,				
	2017		2016			2017	2016			
Products:				<u> </u>				_		
BioGlue and BioFoam	\$	17,845	\$	15,982	\$	37,041	\$	63,461		
On-X		9,993		9,073		65,939		34,232		
CardioGenesis cardiac laser therapy	1,736			2,367		6,866		7,864		
PerClot		892		1,038		3,533		4,021		
PhotoFix		510	465			2,116	1,871			
HeRO Graft								2,325		
ProCol								218		
JOTEC		4,136				4,136				
Total products		35,112		28,925		119,631		113,992		
Preservation services:										
Cardiac tissue		8,599		7,442		32,510		29,697		
Vascular tissue		9,115	8,662			37,561	36,691			
Total preservation services		17,714		16,104		70,071		66,388		
Total revenues	\$	52,826	\$	45,029	\$	189,702	\$	180,380		
Revenues:										
U.S.	\$	34,648	\$	32,885	\$	135,102	\$	131,727		
International		18,178		12,144		54,600		48,653		
Total revenues	\$	52,826	\$	45,029	\$	189,702	\$	180,380		

	mber 31, 2017	December 31, 2016		
Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted securities	\$ 40,753	\$	57,341	
Total current assets	179,280		147,233	
Total assets	591,670		316,140	
Total current liabilities	42,940		30,102	
Total liabilities	312,635		107,157	
Shareholders' equity	279,035		208,983	

CRYOLIFE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES Reconciliation of GAAP to Non-GAAP Net Income and Diluted Income per Common Share (In thousands, except per share data)

	Three Months Ended December 31.					Twelve Months Ended December 31,					
		2017	,	2016		2017	2016				
GAAP: (Loss) income before income taxes	\$	(2,348)	\$	3,759	\$	3,561	\$	18,412			
Income tax expense (benefit)		659		862		(143)		7,634			
Net (loss) income	\$	(3,007)	\$	2,897	\$	3,704	\$	10,778			
Diluted (loss) income per											
common share:	\$	(0.09)	\$	0.09	\$	0.11	\$	0.32			
Diluted weighted-average common shares outstanding		34,025		33,443		34,163		32,822			
Reconciliation of income before income taxes, GAAP to net income, non-GAAP:											
(Loss) income before income taxes, GAAP Adjustments:	\$	(2,348)	\$	3,759	\$	3,561	\$	18,412			
Business development expenses Gain on sale of business components		6,555		832		10,935		7,880 (7,915)			
Amortization expense		1,662		1,153		5,085		4,426			
Acquisition inventory basis step-up expense		584		822		2,728		3,039			
Income before income taxes, non-GAAP		6,453		6,566		22,309		25,842			
Income tax expense calculated at 38% normalized		2.452		2.405		8,477		0.820			
tax rate Net income, non-GAAP		2,452 4,001	\$	2,495 4,071		13,832	\$	9,820 16,022			
Reconciliation of diluted income per common share, GAAP to diluted income per common share, non-GAAP:		3,000	Ψ	,,	_		Ψ_	23,222			
Diluted (loss) income per common share, GAAP: Adjustments:	\$	(0.09)	\$	0.09	\$	0.11	\$	0.32			
Business development expenses Gain on sale of business		0.19		0.02		0.31		0.24			
components Amortization expense		0.05	0.03			0.15		(0.24) 0.13			
step-up expense	Tax effect of non-GAAP adjustments (0.11)		0.02		0.08			0.09			
adjustments			(0.02)			(0.21)	(0.08)				
Effect of 38% normalized tax rate	0.05		(0.02)		(0.04)		0.02				
Diluted income per common share,	_		, , ,								
non-GAAP:	\$	0.11	\$	0.12	\$	0.40	\$	0.48			
Diluted weighted- average common shares outstanding		35,090		33,443		34,163		32,822			

CRYOLIFE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES Reconciliation of GAAP to Non-GAAP Revenues; Gross Margin; General, Administrative, and Marketing (In thousands, except per share data)

	Three Months Ended December 31,					Twelve Months Ended December 31,					
		2017		2016	Growth Rate	2017		7 2016		Growth Rate	
Reconciliation of total revenues, GAAP to total revenues, non-GAAP:											
Total revenues, GAAP Plus: On-X pre acquisition revenues	\$	52,826	\$	45,029 	17%	\$	189,702	\$	180,380 1,627	5%	
Less: HeRO revenues Less: ProCol									(2,325)		
revenues Less: JOTEC revenues		(4,136)					 (4,136)		(218)		
Total revenues, non-GAAP	\$	48,690	\$	45,029	8%	\$	185,566	\$	179,464	3%	
			onths Ende mber 31,				Twelve Month Decem				
Reconciliation of gross		2017		2016			2017		2016		
margin %, GAAP to gross margin %, non-GAAP:											
Total revenues, GAAP	\$	52,826	\$	45,029		\$	189,702	\$	180,380		
Gross margin, GAAP	\$	36,363	\$	31,195		\$	128,642	\$	118,899		
Gross margin %, GAAP		69%		69%			68%		66%		
Gross margin, GAAP Plus: Acquisition inventory basis step-	\$	36,363	\$	31,195		\$	128,642	\$	118,899		
up expense		584		822			2,728		3,039		
Gross margin, non-GAAP	\$	36,947	\$	32,017		\$	131,370	\$	121,938		
Gross margin %, non-GAAP		70%		71%			69%		68%		
	Three Months Ended December 31,					Twelve Mor Decem					
Reconciliation of		2017		2016			2017		2016		
general, administrative, and marketing, expense, GAAP to general, administrative, and marketing, expense, non-GAAP General, administrative, and marketing											
expense, GAAP Less: Business development	\$	30,195	\$	22,246		\$	101,212	\$	91,548		
expenses General, administrative, and marketing		(6,555)		(832)			(10,935)		(7,880)		
expense,											
non-GAAP	\$	23,640	\$	21,414		\$	90,277	\$	83,668		