UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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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 18, 2006

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CRYOLIFE, INC. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter) \_\_\_\_\_

FLORIDA (State or Other Jurisdiction (Commission File Number) of Incorporation)

1-13165

59-2417093 (IRS Employer 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)

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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 (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))

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SECTION 8 OTHER EVENTS. ITEM 8.01 OTHER EVENTS.

On January 18, 2006, CryoLife, Inc. ("CryoLife") issued a press release announcing it has engaged Piper Jaffray & Co. to assist the Company's management and Board of Directors in identifying and evaluating potential strategies to enhance shareholder value. CryoLife hereby incorporates by reference herein the information set forth in its Press Release dated January 18, 2006, 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 such press release shall not create any implication that the affairs of CryoLife have continued unchanged since such date.

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 Releases. Please refer to the last paragraph of the Press Release for further discussion about forward-looking statements. For further information on risk factors, please refer to the "Risk Factors" contained in CryoLife's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004, CryoLife's Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-121406), as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and any subsequent SEC filings. CryoLife disclaims any obligation or duty to update or modify these forward-looking statements.

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SECTION 9 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS. ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

- (a) Financial Statements. Not applicable.
- (b) Pro Forma Financial Information. Not applicable.
- (c) Shell Company Transactions. Not applicable.
- (d) Exhibits.

Exhibit Number Description

99.1 Press Release dated January 18, 2006

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## 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: January 18, 2006

By: /s/ D. Ashley Lee Name: D. Ashley Lee Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer

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Exhibit Number

99.1

Description

Press Release dated January 18, 2006

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## [COMPANY LOGO]

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACTS:

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

CRYOLIFE RETAINS PIPER JAFFRAY & CO. TO ASSIST IN THE REVIEW OF POTENTIAL STRATEGIES

ATLANTA, January 18, 2006 -- CryoLife, Inc. (NYSE: CRY), a biomaterials and biosurgical device company, today announced that it has engaged Piper Jaffray & Co. to assist the Company's management and Board of Directors in identifying and evaluating potential strategies to enhance shareholder value. Piper Jaffray & Co. has had an investment banking relationship with CryoLife, most recently leading the Company's offering of 6% convertible preferred stock in 2005.

Steven G. Anderson, CryoLife's President and Chief Executive Officer, stated, "The management and Board of Directors continuously evaluates our business and operations to identify and develop opportunities for maximizing value for all shareholders. We look forward to working with Piper Jaffray in this regard."

No assurance can be given that this review will lead to any specific action or transaction.

Founded in 1984, CryoLife, Inc. is a leader in the processing and distribution of implantable living human tissues for use in cardiovascular and vascular surgeries throughout the United States and Canada. The Company's BioGlue(R) Surgical Adhesive is FDA approved as an adjunct to sutures and staples for use in adult patients in open surgical repair of large vessels and is CE marked in the European Community and approved in Canada for use in soft tissue repair and approved in Australia for use in vascular and pulmonary sealing and repair. The Company also manufactures the SG Model #100 vascular graft, which is CE marked for distribution within the European Community.

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. These future events may not occur as and when expected, if at all, and, together with the Company's business, are subject to various risks and uncertainties. These risks and uncertainties include that the work to be done by the Company's management and board of directors with the assistance of Piper Jaffray & Co. will not enhance or maximize value, that the Company's aggregate revenues and expenses may not meet its expectations, the possibility that as a result of its inspections of the Company's facilities or other events the FDA could impose additional restrictions on the Company's operations, require a recall, prevent the Company from processing and distributing tissues or manufacturing and distributing other products, or take other actions which the Company may not be able to address in a timely or cost-effective manner if at all, that the Company may not have sufficient borrowing or other capital availability to fund its business, that pending or threatened litigation cannot be settled on terms acceptable to the Company, that the Company may not have sufficient resources to pay punitive damages or other uninsured liabilities arising from litigation, the possibility of severe decreases in the Company's revenues and working capital, that to the extent the Company does not have sufficient resources, it may be forced to cease operations or seek protection under applicable bankruptcy laws, changes in laws and regulations applicable to CryoLife and other risk factors detailed CryoLife's Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including CryoLife's Form 10-K filing for the year ended December 31, 2004, its registration statement on Form S-3 (Reg. No. 333-121406), CryoLife's most recent Form 10-Q, and its other SEC filings. The Company does not undertake to update its forward-looking statements.

For additional information about the company, visit CryoLife's web site: http://www.cryolife.com

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