# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, DC 20549

#### FORM 8-K

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

DATE OF REPORT: May 5, 2010

(Date of earliest event reported)

### POWELL INDUSTRIES, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

001-12488

(Commission File Number)

88-0106100

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

77075-1180 (Zip Code)

8550 Mosley Drive Houston, Texas (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(713) 944-6900

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

N/A

(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:

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17CFR230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17CFR240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Action (17CFR240.14D-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17CFR240.13e-4(c))

#### Item 2.02 – Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On May 5, 2010, Powell Industries, Inc. (NASDAQ: POWL) issued a press release announcing its results of operations for its fiscal 2010 second quarter ended March 31, 2010. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

The information in this Current Report, including the exhibit, is being furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 of Form 8-K and General Instruction B.2 thereunder. The information in this Current Report shall not be deemed "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section. The information in this Current Report shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

#### Item 9.01 – Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits. The following exhibit is furnished as part of this Report.

| Exhibit<br>Number | Description                     |  |  |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 99.1              | Press Release dated May 5, 2010 |  |  |
|                   |                                 |  |  |

#### **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.

Date: May 5, 2010

POWELL INDUSTRIES, INC.

By: /s/ DON R. MADISON

Don R. Madison
Executive Vice President
Chief Financial and Administrative Officer
(Principal Accounting and Financial Officer)



#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### PRESS RELEASE

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#### POWELL INDUSTRIES ANNOUNCES FISCAL 2010 SECOND QUARTER RESULTS

HOUSTON — MAY 5, 2010 — Powell Industries, Inc. (NASDAQ: POWL), a leading manufacturer of equipment and systems for the management and control of electrical energy and other critical processes, today announced results for the fiscal 2010 second quarter ending March 31, 2010.

Revenues for the second quarter of fiscal 2010 were \$142.1 million compared to revenues of \$164.1 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2009. Net income for the second quarter was \$9.9 million, or \$0.85 per diluted share, compared to net income of \$8.9 million, or \$0.77 per diluted share, in the second quarter of fiscal 2009.

Patrick L. McDonald, President and Chief Executive Officer, stated, "Our exceptional performance yielded strong results in the second quarter. We are pleased with our initiatives to strengthen project management and continue to see improvements in operational efficiency. We are excited about our recent acquisition in Canada, which has received a favorable response from both customers and employees.

"Our marketplace remains one of uncertainty, and we believe the events of the past week in the Gulf of Mexico may make the decisions of our oil and gas customers even more difficult in the near term. Currently, we are unable to predict when the economic issues and regulatory environment will stabilize and confidence to bring about new U.S. capital infrastructure investments will return. Our focus continues to be on our customer relationships and our ability to maintain the capabilities and resources to support our customers on projects not only in the U.S. but around the world."

The Company's backlog as of March 31, 2010 was \$313 million compared to \$342 million as of December 31, 2009 and compared to \$486 million at the end of last year's second quarter. New orders placed during the second quarter of fiscal 2010 totaled \$113 million compared to \$108 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and compared to \$154 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2009.

#### OUTLOOK

The following statements are based on the current expectations of the Company. These statements are forward-looking, and actual results may differ materially as further elaborated in the last paragraph below.

Based on its backlog and current business conditions, Powell Industries expects full year fiscal 2010 revenues to range between \$550 million and \$575 million and full year fiscal 2010 earnings to range between \$2.10 and \$2.35 per diluted share.

#### **CONFERENCE CALL**

Powell Industries has scheduled a conference call for Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. eastern time. To participate in the conference call, dial 480-629-9692 at least 10 minutes before the call begins and ask for the Powell Industries conference call. A replay of the call will be available approximately two hours after the live broadcast ends and will be accessible until May 12, 2010. To access the replay, dial 303-590-3030 using a passcode of 4285994#.

Investors, analysts and the general public will also have the opportunity to listen to the conference call over the Internet by visiting <a href="http://www.powellind.com">http://www.powellind.com</a>. To listen to the live call on the web, please visit the website at least fifteen minutes before the call begins to register, download and install any necessary audio software. For those who cannot listen to the live webcast, an archive will be available shortly after the call and will remain available for approximately 90 days at <a href="http://www.powellind.com">http://www.powellind.com</a>.

Powell Industries, Inc., headquartered in Houston, designs, manufactures and packages systems and equipment for the control, distribution and management of electrical energy and other dynamic processes. Powell provides products and services to large industrial customers such as utilities, oil and gas producers, refineries, petrochemical plants, pulp and paper producers, mining operations, commuter railways and other vehicular transportation facilities. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.powellind.com">www.powellind.com</a>.

Any forward-looking statements in the preceding paragraphs of this release are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Investors are cautioned that such forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties in that actual results may differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. In the course of operations, we are subject to certain risk factors, competition and competitive pressures, sensitivity to general economic and industrial conditions, international political and economic risks, availability and price of raw materials and execution of business strategy. For further information, please refer to the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, copies of which are available from the Company without charge.

## POWELL INDUSTRIES, INC. & SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

|   | Three Mont           | hs Ended<br>March 31, 2009 | Six Months Er<br>March 31, 2010 | nded<br>March 31, 2009 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| (In thousands, except per share data)                       |                      | <del></del>                |                                 |                        |
| Revenues  | (Unaud<br>\$ 142,135 | \$ 164,099                 | (Unaudited<br>\$ 278,051        | \$ 334,588             |
| Cost of goods sold  | 105,602              | 130,255                    | 203,701                         | 266,242                |
| Gross profit  | 36,533               | 33,844                     | 74,350                          | 68,346                 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses                | 21,157               | 20,323                     | 43,798                          | 41,884                 |
| Operating income  | 15,376               | 13,521                     | 30,552                          | 26,462                 |
| Interest expense  | 228                  | 262                        | 410                             | 734                    |
| Interest income   | (115)                | (3)                        | (157)                           | (60)                   |
| Income before income taxes                                  | 15,263               | 13,262                     | 30,299                          | 25,788                 |
| Income tax provision  | 5,378                | 4,655                      | 10,669                          | 9,052                  |
| Net income  | 9,885                | 8,607                      | 19,630                          | 16,736                 |
| Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interest   | (25)                 | 245                        | (126)                           | (31)                   |
| Net income attributable to Powell Industries, Inc.          | \$ 9,860             | \$ 8,852                   | \$ 19,504                       | \$ 16,705              |
| Earnings per share attributable to Powell Industries, Inc.: |                      |                            |                                 |                        |
| Basic   | \$ 0.86              | \$ 0.78                    | \$ 1.70                         | \$ 1.46                |
| Diluted   | \$ 0.85              | \$ 0.77                    | \$ 1.68                         | \$ 1.45                |
| Weighted average shares:                                    |                      |                            |                                 |                        |
| Basic   | 11,523               | 11,413                     | 11,498                          | 11,413                 |
| Diluted   | 11,659               | 11,495                     | 11,639                          | 11,487                 |
| SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA:                                    |                      |                            |                                 |                        |
| Capital Expenditures  | <u>\$ 846</u>        | \$ 1,016                   | \$ 1,460                        | \$ 2,981               |
| Depreciation and amortization                               | \$ 3,497             | \$ 2,707                   | \$ 6,369                        | \$ 5,502               |

## POWELL INDUSTRIES, INC. & SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

| (In thousands)  | March 31,<br>2010<br>(Unaudited) | September 30,<br>2009 |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Assets:   | , ,                              |                       |
| Current assets  | \$305,471                        | \$ 315,003            |
| Property, plant and equipment (net)                                     | 66,041                           | 61,036                |
| Other assets  | 42,114                           | 28,801                |
| Total assets  | \$413,626                        | \$ 404,840            |
| Liabilities & equity:   | <del></del>                      |                       |
| Current liabilities   | \$121,296                        | \$ 149,142            |
| Long-term debt and capital lease obligations, net of current maturities | 20,073                           | 4,800                 |
| Deferred and other long-term liabilities                                | 3,944                            | 3,681                 |
| Stockholders' equity and minority interest                              | 268,313                          | 247,217               |
| Total liabilities and equity  | \$413,626                        | \$ 404,840            |

## POWELL INDUSTRIES, INC. & SUBSIDIARIES BUSINESS SEGMENTS

|                                    | Three Months Ended March 31, 2010 March 31, 2009 | Six Months Ended  March 31, 2010 March 31, 2009 |
|------------------------------------|--|---|
| (In thousands)                     | (Unaudited)                                      | (Unaudited)                                     |
| Revenues:                          | ф. 405.400 ф. 450.004                            | d 205 04D d 200 004                             |
| Electrical Power Products          | \$ 135,133 \$ 158,291                            | \$ 265,643 \$ 322,201                           |
| Process Control Systems            | 7,002 5,808                                      | 12,408 12,387                                   |
| Total revenues                     | <u>\$ 142,135</u> <u>\$ 164,099</u>              | <u>\$ 278,051</u> <u>\$ 334,588</u>             |
| Income before income taxes:        |  |   |
|                                    |  |   |
| Electrical Power Products          | \$ 15,076 \$ 13,143                              | \$ 30,063 \$ 25,262                             |
| Process Control Systems            | 187 119  | 236 526   |
| 3                                  |  |   |
| Total income before income taxes   | <u>\$ 15,263</u> <u>\$ 13,262</u>                | \$ 30,299 \$ 25,788                             |
|                                    |  | March 31, September 30, 2010 2009               |
| (In thousands)                     |  | (Unaudited)                                     |
| Identifiable tangible assets:      |  |   |
|                                    |  |   |
| Electrical Power Products          |  | \$244,105 \$ 258,012                            |
| Process Control Systems            |  | 9,086 6,863                                     |
| Corporate                          |  | 125,698 117,398                                 |
| m . 1:1 .:(: 11                    |  | # DEC 000 # DOC 050                             |
| Total identifiable tangible assets |  | <u>\$378,889</u> <u>\$382,273</u>               |
| Backlog:                           |  |   |
| Electrical Power Products          |  | \$270,746 \$ 329,558                            |
| Process Control Systems            |  | 42,281 36,198                                   |
| •                                  |  |   |
| Total backlog                      |  | \$313,027 \$ 365,756                            |