# 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): January 8, 2025

NORTHERN TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware** (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) 001-11038 (Commission File Number) 41-0857886 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

4201 Woodland Road P.O. Box 69

**Circle Pines, Minnesota 55014** (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(763) 225-6600 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable

(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:

□ 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))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common stock, par value \$0.02 per share	NTIC	Nasdaq Global Market

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  $\Box$ 

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.

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

On January 8, 2025, Northern Technologies International Corporation ("NTIC") announced its consolidated financial results for the fiscal quarter ended November 30, 2024. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this current report on Form 8-K and the information set forth therein is incorporated herein by reference and constitutes a part of this report.

The information contained in Item 2.02 of this report and Exhibit 99.1 to this report shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and shall not be incorporated by reference into any filings made by NTIC under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as may be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

#### Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	Description
<u>99.1</u>	<u>Press Release issued January 8, 2025 (furnished herewith)</u>
104	The Cover Page from this Current Report on Form 8-K, Formatted in Inline XBRL (filed herewith)

#### 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.

## NORTHERN TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

Date: January 8, 2025

By: <u>/s/ Matthew C. Wolsfeld</u> Matthew C. Wolsfeld Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary

# Northern Technologies International Corporation Reports Financial Results for First Quarter Fiscal 2025

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 08, 2025 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Northern Technologies International Corporation (NASDAQ: NTIC), a leading developer of corrosion inhibiting products and services, as well as bio-based and biodegradable polymer resin compounds, today reported its financial results for the first quarter of fiscal 2025.

First quarter fiscal 2025 financial and operating highlights include (with growth rates on a fiscal quarter year-over-year basis):

- Consolidated net sales increased 5.7% to a first quarter record of \$21,338,000
- ZERUST® industrial net sales increased 0.4% to \$13,962,000
- ZERUST® oil and gas net sales increased 0.7% to \$1,514,000
- Natur-Tec® product net sales increased 22.8% to a quarterly record of \$5,863,000
- NTIC China net sales increased 8.6% to \$3,995,000
- Gross profit, as a percent of net sales, increased 200 basis points to 38.3%
- Joint venture operating income increased 2.7% to \$2,414,000
- Operating expenses were \$9,470,000, reflecting a 14.0% increase primarily associated with investments to support anticipated ZERUST® oil and gas growth in the second half of fiscal year 2025
- Net income attributable to NTIC decreased to \$561,000, compared to \$896,000
- Net income per diluted share attributable to NTIC was \$0.06, compared to \$0.09
- Cash provided by operating activities was \$2,395,000 for the first quarter of fiscal year 2025
- Consolidated balance sheet as of November 30, 2024 remained strong with working capital of \$22,183,000

"NTIC's record first quarter consolidated sales were driven by Natur-Tec® all-time record quarterly sales, as well as, stable ZERUST® oil and gas and ZERUST® industrial sales. Furthermore, NTIC China enjoyed its highest quarterly sales in nearly three years. We are cautiously optimistic that global trends within our ZERUST® industrial markets will continue improving throughout fiscal year 2025," said G. Patrick Lynch, President and CEO of NTIC.

"Operating expenses increased 14.0% year-over-year primarily due to our strategic investments in ZERUST® oil and gas sales infrastructure. Partially offsetting these investments was a 200-basis point year-over-year improvement in gross margin for the fiscal 2025 first quarter, demonstrating the successful execution of quality system-improvement initiatives that are underway company-wide. Our record first-quarter consolidated sales and solid start to fiscal 2025 are encouraging. We continue to believe fiscal 2025 will be another strong year of sales growth and higher profitability," concluded Mr. Lynch.

NTIC's consolidated net sales increased 5.7% to \$21,338,000 during the three months ended November 30, 2024, compared to \$20,182,000 for the three months ended November 30, 2023. The year-over-year increase in consolidated net sales for the first quarter was primarily a result of sales growth and higher customer demand within the Company's Natur-Tec®, ZERUST® oil and gas, and ZERUST® industrial product categories.

The following tables set forth NTIC's net sales by product category for the three months ended November 30, 2024 and 2023, by segment:

	Three Months Ended November 30,						
	% of Net 2024 Sales 2023		2023	% of Net Sales	% Change		
ZERUST <sup>®</sup> industrial net sales	\$	13,962,252	65.4%	\$	13,903,431	68.9%	0.4%
ZERUST <sup>®</sup> oil & gas net sales		1,513,551	7.1%		1,502,314	7.4%	0.7%
Total ZERUST <sup></sup>	\$	15,475,803	72.5%	\$	15,405,745	76.3%	0.5%
Total Natur-Tec <sup>®</sup> net sales		5,862,590	27.5%		4,775,930	23.7%	22.8%
Total net sales	\$	21,338,393	100.0%	\$	20,181,675	100.0%	5.7%

NTIC's joint venture operating income increased 2.7% to \$2,414,000 during the three months ended November 30, 2024, compared to joint venture operating income of \$2,351,000 during the three months ended November 30, 2023. The \$63,000 increase in joint venture operating income was primarily due to an increase in net income at NTIC's joint ventures. Net sales of NTIC's joint ventures, which are not consolidated with NTIC's financial results, increased 1.2% to \$23,837,000 during the three months ended November 30, 2023.

Operating expenses, as a percent of net sales, for the first quarter of fiscal 2025 were 44.4%, compared to 41.2% for the same period last fiscal year. Higher operating expenses for the three months ended November 30, 2024 over the prior fiscal year period were primarily due to increased personnel expenses, including new hires and benefits, and increased travel and professional fees.

Net income attributable to NTIC for the first quarter of fiscal 2025 decreased to \$561,000, or \$0.06 per diluted share, compared to net income of \$896,000, or \$0.09 per diluted share, for the same period last fiscal year.

NTIC's non-GAAP adjusted net income, as set forth in the GAAP reconciliation at the end of this release, was \$666,874, or \$0.07 per diluted share, for the first quarter of fiscal 2025, compared to \$1,001,000, or \$0.10 per diluted share, for the same quarter last fiscal year.

NTIC's consolidated balance sheet remains strong, with working capital of \$22,183,000 as of November 30, 2024, including \$5,570,000 in cash and cash equivalents and an outstanding revolving line of credit and term loan balance of \$7,280,000, compared to \$23,682,000 of working capital as of August 31, 2024, including \$4,952,000 in cash and cash equivalents and an outstanding revolving line of credit and term loan balance of \$7,112,000.

At November 30, 2024, the Company had \$25,493,000 of investments in joint ventures, of which \$13,900,000, or 54.6%, is cash, with the remaining balance mostly made up of other working capital.

## **Conference Call and Webcast**

NTIC will host a conference call today at 8:00 a.m. Central Time to review its results of operations for the first quarter of fiscal year 2025 and its outlook, followed by a question-and-answer session. The conference call will be available to interested parties through a webcast. To join the live call and ask a question, a participant must register using the URL below.

## https://register.vevent.com/register/BI4d040eba4e2c4503bf32954281c25848

Once registered, the participant will receive a dial-in number and unique PIN number to access the call.

The audio-only webcast can be accessed at the following link: https://edge.media-server.com/mmc/p/7u2oj9a3 A link to the webcast is also available on the Investor Relations section of NTIC's webpage. Participants are advised to go to the website at least 15 minutes early to register, download and install any necessary audio software. For those unable to participate in the live webcast, a replay of the webcast will be archived and accessible for approximately one year on the Investor Relations section of NTIC's webpage.

# About Northern Technologies International Corporation

Northern Technologies International Corporation develops and markets proprietary, environmentally beneficial products and services in over 65 countries either directly or via a network of subsidiaries, joint ventures, independent distributors and agents. NTIC's primary business is corrosion prevention marketed mainly under the ZERUST® brand. NTIC has been selling its proprietary ZERUST® rust and corrosion inhibiting products and services to the automotive, electronics, electrical, mechanical, military and retail consumer markets for over 50 years and more recently has also targeted and expanded into the oil and gas industry. NTIC offers worldwide on-site technical consulting for rust and corrosion prevention issues. NTIC's technical service consultants work directly with the end users of NTIC's products to analyze their specific needs and develop systems to meet their technical requirements. NTIC also markets and sells a portfolio of bio-based and biodegradable polymer resin compounds and finished products marketed under the Natur-Tec® brand.

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

Statements contained in this release that are not historical information are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements include anticipated ZERUST® oil and gas growth in the second half of fiscal year 2025, NTIC's belief that global trends within its ZERUST® industrial markets will continue improving throughout fiscal year 2025 and that fiscal 2025 will be another strong year of sales growth and higher profitability, and other statements that can be identified by words such as "believes," "continues," "expects," "anticipates," "intends," "potential," "outlook," "will," "may," "would," "should," "guidance" or words of similar meaning, and the use of future dates. Such forward-looking statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of NTIC's management and are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected or implied. Such potential risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, in no particular order: the health of the U.S. and worldwide economies, including in particular the U.S. automotive industry and its evolution towards electric vehicles; the effect of economic uncertainty, recessionary indicators, inflation, increased interest rates and turmoil in the global credit, financial and banking markets or perception thereof; effect of supply chain disruptions; dependence on joint ventures, relationships with joint venture partners and their success, including fees and dividend distributions; risks associated with international operations, including NTIC China, exposure to exchange rate fluctuations, tariffs and trade disputes; effect of economic slowdown and political unrest, including the wars between Russia and Ukraine and Israel and Hamas; the level of growth in NTIC's markets; NTIC's investments in research and development efforts; acceptance of existing and new products; timing of purchase orders under supply contracts; variability in sales to oil and gas customers and effect on quarterly financial results; increased competition; costs and effects of complying with changes in tax, fiscal, government and other regulatory policies, and rules relating to environmental, health and safety matters; and NTIC's reliance on its intellectual property rights and the absence of infringement of the intellectual property rights of others. More detailed information on these and additional factors which could affect NTIC's operating and financial results is described in NTIC's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including its annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2024 and subsequent quarterly reports on Form 10-O. NTIC urges all interested parties to read these reports to gain a better understanding of the many business and other risks that it faces. Additionally, NTIC undertakes no obligation to publicly release the results of any revisions to these forward-looking statements, which may be made to reflect events or circumstances occurring after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

#### **Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

In addition to the financial measures prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), this release contains non-GAAP financial measures, including adjusted net income attributable to NTIC and adjusted net income attributable to NTIC per diluted share. NTIC's reasons for use of these measures, reconciliations of these non-GAAP financial measures to the most directly comparable GAAP measures and other information are included at the end of this release. Non-GAAP financial measures have limitations as analytical tools and should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for NTIC's financial results prepared in accordance with GAAP.

## NORTHERN TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2024 (UNAUDITED) AND AUGUST 31, 2024 (AUDITED)

ASSETS CURRENT ASSETS: Cash and cash equivalents \$ Receivables: Trade, excluding joint ventures, less allowance for credit losses of \$310,000 as of November 30, 2024 and August 31, 2024 Fees for services provided to joint ventures Income taxes Inventories, net Prepaid expenses Total current assets PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET OTHER ASSETS: Investments in joint ventures Deferred income tax, net Intangible assets, net	November 30, 2024		August 31, 2024	
Cash and cash equivalents       \$         Receivables:       Trade, excluding joint ventures, less allowance for credit losses of \$310,000 as of November 30, 2024 and August 31, 2024         Fees for services provided to joint ventures       Income taxes         Income taxes       Income taxes         Inventories, net       Prepaid expenses         Total current assets				
Receivables:         Trade, excluding joint ventures, less allowance for credit losses of \$310,000 as of         November 30, 2024 and August 31, 2024         Fees for services provided to joint ventures         Income taxes         Inventories, net         Prepaid expenses         Total current assets         PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET         OTHER ASSETS:         Investments in joint ventures         Deferred income tax, net				
Trade, excluding joint ventures, less allowance for credit losses of \$310,000 as of November 30, 2024 and August 31, 2024 Fees for services provided to joint ventures Income taxes Inventories, net Prepaid expenses Total current assets PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET OTHER ASSETS: Investments in joint ventures Deferred income tax, net	5,569,834	\$	4,952,184	
November 30, 2024 and August 31, 2024 Fees for services provided to joint ventures Income taxes Inventories, net Prepaid expenses Total current assets PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET OTHER ASSETS: Investments in joint ventures Deferred income tax, net				
Fees for services provided to joint ventures         Income taxes         Inventories, net         Prepaid expenses         Total current assets         PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET         OTHER ASSETS:         Investments in joint ventures         Deferred income tax, net				
Income taxes Inventories, net Prepaid expenses Total current assets PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET OTHER ASSETS: Investments in joint ventures Deferred income tax, net	16,081,710		19,187,079	
Inventories, net Prepaid expenses Total current assets PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET OTHER ASSETS: Investments in joint ventures Deferred income tax, net	1,170,328		1,235,016	
Prepaid expenses Total current assets PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET OTHER ASSETS: Investments in joint ventures Deferred income tax, net	688,806		392,293	
Total current assets	14,337,384		14,390,844	
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET OTHER ASSETS: Investments in joint ventures Deferred income tax, net	2,454,288		1,421,803	
OTHER ASSETS: Investments in joint ventures Deferred income tax, net	40,302,350		41,579,219	
Investments in joint ventures Deferred income tax, net	17,053,239	_	16,265,653	
Deferred income tax, net				
	25,492,921		25,397,287	
Intangible assets, net	508,495		544,464	
	5,573,945		5,682,945	
Goodwill	4,782,376		4,782,376	
Operating lease right of use assets	324,329		424,558	
Total other assets	36,682,066		36,831,630	
Total assets \$	94,037,655	\$	94,676,502	
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
CURRENT LIABILITIES:				
Line of credit \$	4,518,734	\$	4,291,608	
Term loan	2,761,592		2,820,835	
Accounts payable	6,559,744		6,393,355	
Income taxes payable	256,849		327,781	
Accrued liabilities:				
Payroll and related benefits	2,710,181		3,163,372	
Other	1,094,381		574,876	
Current portion of operating leases	217,441		325,116	
Total current liabilities	18,118,922		17,896,943	
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES:				
Deferred income tax, net	1,504,796		1,504,796	
Operating leases, less current portion	106,888	<u></u>	99,442	
Total long-term liabilities \$	1,611,684	\$	1,604,238	
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES				
EQUITY:				
Preferred stock, no par value; authorized 10,000 shares; none issued and outstanding	—		—	
Common stock, \$0.02 par value per share; authorized 15,000,000				
shares as of November 30, 2024 and August 31, 2024;				
issued and outstanding 9,470,507 and 9,466,976, respectively	189,410		189,340	

Additional paid-in capital

23,615,564

23,999,854

Retained earnings	53,669,366	53,771,211
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(7,645,298)	(6,382,124)
Stockholders' equity	70,213,332	71,193,991
Non-controlling interests	4,093,717	3,981,330
Total equity	74,307,049	75,175,321
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 94,037,655 \$	94,676,502

#### NORTHERN TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (UNAUDITED) FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 2024, AND 2023

NET SALES: Net sales Cost of goods sold Gross profit	\$ 2024	 2023
Net sales Cost of goods sold	\$	
Cost of goods sold	\$	
-	21,338,393	\$ 20,181,675
Gross profit	13,175,440	12,847,401
	 8,162,953	 7,334,274
JOINT VENTURE OPERATIONS:		
Equity in income from joint ventures	1,129,593	1,102,241
Fees for services provided to joint ventures	1,284,119	1,248,958
Total joint venture operations	 2,413,712	 2,351,199
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Selling expenses	4,267,654	3,686,058
General and administrative expenses	3,858,943	3,517,061
Research and development expenses	1,343,397	1,105,921
Total operating expenses	 9,469,994	 8,309,040
OPERATING INCOME	1,106,671	1,376,433
INTEREST INCOME	25,567	46,442
INTEREST EXPENSE	(120,220)	(111,138)
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE	 1,012,018	 1,311,737
INCOME TAX EXPENSE	217,871	226,796
NET INCOME	 794,147	 1,084,941
NET INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS	233,056	189,420
NET INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO NTIC	\$ 561,091	\$ 895,521
NET INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO NTIC PER COMMON SHARE:		
Basic	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.09
Diluted	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.09
WEIGHTED AVERAGE COMMON SHARES ASSUMED OUTSTANDING:		
Basic	9,470,507	9,427,588
Diluted	 9,754,209	 9,706,581
CASH DIVIDENDS DECLARED PER COMMON SHARE	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.07

The accompanying press release contains certain non-GAAP financial measures, including adjusted net income attributable to NTIC per diluted share, which are not calculated or presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP). These non-GAAP financial measures are information supplemental and in addition to the financial measures presented in the accompanying release that are calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. NTIC uses non-GAAP financial measures as supplemental measures of performance and believes these measures facilitate operating performance comparisons from period to period and company to company by factoring out potential differences caused by non-recurring, unusual or infrequent charges not related to NTIC's regular, ongoing business. NTIC also believes that the presentation of certain non-GAAP financial measures provides useful information to investors in evaluating the company's operations, period over period. Such non-GAAP financial measures should not be considered superior to, as a substitute for, or as an alternative to, and should be considered in conjunction with, the GAAP financial measures presented in the release. The non-GAAP financial measures in the accompanying release may differ from similar measures used by other companies.

The following is a reconciliation of NTIC's reported net income attributable to NTIC and reported net income attributable to NTIC per diluted common share to adjusted net income attributable to NTIC and adjusted net income attributable to NTIC per diluted common share, in each case, as adjusted to exclude amortization expense.

	Three Months Ended November 30,				
		2024		2023	
Net income attributable to NTIC, as reported Adjustments for adjusted net income:	\$	561,091	\$	895,521	
Amortization expense		105,783		105,783	
Non-GAAP adjusted net income	\$	666,874	\$	1,001,304	
Weighted average shares outstanding (diluted)		9,754,209		9,706,581	
Diluted net income per share, as reported		0.06		0.09	
Adjustments for adjusted net income, net of tax impact, per diluted share		0.01		0.01	
Non-GAAP diluted adjusted net income per share	\$	0.07	\$	0.10	

**Investor and Media Contact:** 

Matthew Wolsfeld, CFO NTIC (763) 225-6600