
**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 (Date of earliest event reported): **May 18, 2016**

THE MIDDLEBY CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

1-9973
(Commission File Number)

36-3352497
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

1400 Toastmaster Drive, Elgin, Illinois
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

60120
(Zip Code)

(847) 741-3300
(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:

- 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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Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On May 18, 2016, The Middleby Corporation (the “Company”) issued a press release announcing it has entered into an agreement to acquire Follett Corporation, a Pennsylvania corporation. A copy of that press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and is incorporated herein by reference.

The information furnished pursuant to this Current Report on Form 8-K (including the exhibit hereto) shall not be considered “filed” under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, nor shall it be incorporated by reference into future filings by the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, unless the Company expressly sets forth in such future filing that such information is to be considered “filed” or incorporated by reference therein.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Description
Exhibit 99.1	Press release dated May 18, 2016 of The Middleby Corporation.

SIGNATURES

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

THE MIDDLEBY CORPORATION

Dated: May 18, 2016

By: /s/ Timothy J. FitzGerald

Timothy J. FitzGerald
Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

Exhibit Index

Exhibit No.	Description
Exhibit 99.1	Press release dated May 18, 2016 of The Middleby Corporation.



1400 Toastmaster Drive, Elgin, Illinois 60120 • (847) 741-3300

The Middleby Corporation to Acquire Follett Corporation

Elgin, Ill. (May 18, 2016)—The Middleby Corporation (NASDAQ: MIDD) today announced the acquisition of Follett Corporation, a leading manufacturer of ice machines, ice and water dispensing equipment, ice storage and transport products and medical grade refrigeration products for the foodservice and healthcare industries. The company, which is headquartered in Easton, Penn., has approximately \$140 million in annual revenues.

“Follett is a highly respected, industry leading brand in foodservice and healthcare markets with a long-standing reputation for innovation. Follett offers unique product solutions to help customers improve safety, sanitation, labor productivity and water and electric usage,” said Selim A. Bassoul, Chairman and CEO of The Middleby Corporation. “Follett is a strategic fit with our growing beverage platform, complementing existing Middleby brands in a number of domestic and international market niches, and providing for opportunities to offer combined beverage and ice solutions. We are excited about Follett’s past record of growth and its strong position for future growth, which will be further enhanced within the broader Middleby group.”

ABOUT FOLLETT

Since 1948, Follett Corporation has led the industry in designing and manufacturing high quality, innovative ice storage bins, ice storage and transport systems, ice machines, ice and water dispensers, ice and beverage dispensers, and medical-grade refrigerators and freezers for the foodservice and healthcare industries. Most recently, Follett announced the launch of its new award-winning Horizon Elite™ ice machines. Horizon Elite series Chewblet® ice machines have a revolutionary new water management design that offers foodservice operators a low cost of ownership and superior performance even in the most challenging water conditions. National Restaurant Association (NRA) awarded Horizon Elite a 2016 Kitchen Innovations (KI) Award and the Foodservice Consultants International Society (FCSI) named Horizon Elite its runner-up as 2016 FCSI Product of the Year. Over the past few years, Follett has launched innovative new ice and water dispensers and medical grade refrigeration products that have strengthened its market leading positions in various market niches. Follett has manufacturing operations in Easton, PA, Bethlehem, PA and Gdansk, Poland. More information is available at www.follettice.com.

ABOUT THE MIDDLEBY CORPORATION

The Middleby Corporation is a global leader in the foodservice equipment industry. The company develops, manufactures, markets and services a broad line of equipment used in the commercial foodservice, food processing, and residential kitchen equipment industries. The company’s leading equipment brands serving the commercial foodservice

industry include Anets®, Beech®, Blodgett®, Blodgett Combi®, Blodgett Range®, Bloomfield®, Britannia®, Carter-Hoffmann®, Celfrost®, Concordia®, CookTek®, CTX®, Desmon®, Doyon®, Eswood®, Follett®, FriFri®, Giga®, Goldstein®, Holman®, Houno®, IMC®, Induc®, Jade®, Lang®, Lincat®, MagiKitch'n®, Market Forge®, Marsal®, Middleby Marshall®, MPC®, Nieco®, Nu-Vu®, PerfectFry®, Pitco Frialator®, Southbend®, Star®, Toastmaster®, TurboChef®, Wells® and Wunder-Bar®. The company's leading equipment brands serving the food processing industry include Alkar®, Ammor Inox®, Auto-Bake®, Baker Thermal Solutions®, Cozzini®, Danfotech®, Drake®, Maurer-Atmos®, MP Equipment®, RapidPak®, Spooner Vicars®, Stewart Systems® and Thume®. The company's leading equipment brands serving the residential kitchen industry include AGA®, AGA Cookshop®, Brigade®, Divertimenti®, Falcon®, Fired Earth®, Grange®, Heartland®, La Cornue®, Leisure Sinks®, Lynx®, Marvel®, Mercury®, Rangemaster®, Rayburn®, Redfyre®, Sedona®, Stanley®, Turbochef®, U-Line® and Viking®.

The Middleby Corporation was named a Fortune Magazine's Fastest Growing Company in 2014 and 2015. For more information about The Middleby Corporation and the company brands, please visit www.middleby.com.

Contact: Darcy Bretz (847) 429-7756