GALLAGHER ARTHUR J & CO Form 8-K April 24, 2003

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

April 23, 2003

Date of Report: (Date of earliest event reported)

ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO.

\_\_\_\_\_

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 1-9761 36-2151613

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) Number) Identification Number)

Two Pierce Place, Itasca, Illinois 60143-3141, (630) 773-3800

(Address, including zip code and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

The following information is furnished pursuant to Item 9 "Regulation FD Disclosure" and Item 12 "Disclosure of Results of Operations and Financial Condition". The information furnished pursuant to Item 12 is included under this Item 9 in accordance with SEC Release Nos. 33-8216 and 34-47583.

On April 23, 2003, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. ("AJG") issued a press release setting forth AJG's first quarter 2003 earnings. A copy of AJG's press release is attached hereto as Exhibit (99) and hereby incorporated by reference.

Exhibit Index

(99) Press release, dated April 23, 2003, issued by Arthur J. Gallagher  $\ensuremath{\text{\ensuremath{\&}}}$  Co.

#### 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 hereunto duly authorized.

Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

/s/ Douglas K. Howell By: -----

Douglas K. Howell Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Dated: April 23, 2003

[GRAPHIC OMITTED] Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Marsha J. Akin

Investor Relations (630) 773-3800 www.ajg.com

ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO. ANNOUNCES FIRST QUARTER 2003 FINANCIAL RESULTS

ITASCA, IL, April 23, 2003— Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. today reported its financial results for the quarter ended March 31, 2003. A printer-friendly format is available at www.ajg.com.

	Revenues		%	Net Earnings		Earnings Per	
Segment	1Q 03	1Q 02	Chg	1Q 03	1Q 02	1Q 03	
	(\$ in millions)		(\$ in m	illions)			
Brokerage	\$ 188.0	\$ 154.7	22%	\$ 20.1	\$ 17.7	\$ 0.22	\$
Risk Management	76.7	70.0	10%	8.1	8.0	0.09	
Financial Services	(10.4)	14.3		(16.3)	8.0	(0.18)	
Total Company	\$ 254.3	\$ 239.0	 6%	\$ 11.9	\$ 33.7	\$ 0.13	\$
	========			=======		========	

In the first quarter 2003, the company decided to exit from its investments in venture capital, development stage enterprises and turn-arounds and recorded an after-tax charge of \$19.3 million, or \$0.21 per share, to reduce the carrying values to the estimated realizable value. The company does not intend to make future investments in these investment classes. Of the company's \$700 million investment portfolio, the net carrying value of these investments totaled \$31.7 million and \$4.4 million at December 31, 2002 and March 31, 2003, respectively. The company believes its other investments are sound. In addition, late in the first quarter the company signed a new synthetic fuel deal, which is expected to keep the effective tax rate in the mid-20s for the year.

Brokerage Segment Highlights

- o Very strong first-quarter revenue growth.
- o Record first-quarter earnings.
- o The company's 2001 and 2002 organic hiring strategy is delivering better-than-expected results.
- o Rate environment continues to be strong.

Risk Management Segment Highlights

- o Claim counts recovering to pre 9/11 levels leading to improved revenue growth rates.
- o Outstanding new business growth in the quarter and over 98% account retention levels.

"We are extremely pleased with the outstanding 22% revenue growth achieved within our Brokerage segment, of which 15% is organic," said President and Chief Executive Officer, J. Patrick Gallagher, Jr. "In this very tough environment for our clients, our niche strategy and alternative market expertise are proving very effective in addressing their needs. We believe that we now have a full complement of talent in place. The hiring restrictions we implemented at the end of the third quarter have been successful and remain in force. The new producers we added over the last two years are doing an excellent job. As a group, they are on track to be fully self-supporting by the end of 2003, which is slightly ahead of last year's expectations. It should take only one more renewal cycle to bring their compensation ratio in line with our historical levels. Accordingly, we remain confident that our strategy of investing in people during 2001 and 2002 will contribute substantially to our long-range growth."

(1 of 4)

Proforma results for the Brokerage segment, excluding revenues, compensation and other operating expenses associated with producer expansion, are:

	Revenues		9	Net Earnings		
Brokerage Segment	1Q 03	1Q 02	Chg	1Q 03	1Q 02	
	(\$ i	n millions)	(\$ in millions)			
As reported Estimated impact of new hires	\$ 188.0 (20.1)	\$ 154.7 (10.4)	22%	\$ 20.1 3.1	\$ 17.7 2.9	
Excluding new hires	\$ 167.9 =======	\$ 14.3	16%	\$ 23.2 =======	\$ 20.8	

"Gallagher Bassett Services, the property/casualty portion of our Risk Management segment, has improved its growth rate. Claim counts have returned to pre 9/11 levels, new business production is very strong and retention levels exceed 98%," said Mr. Gallagher.

"In conclusion, the rate environment is currently strong and our acquisition pipeline remains full. We are pleased with our growth and much credit is due to our talented team of professionals as they deliver hard-fought results in a very tough marketplace."

The company will host a Webcast conference call on Thursday, April 24, 2003 at 11:00am EDT to further discuss these quarterly results. To listen, please go to www.ajg.com.

\* \* \* \* \*

Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., an international insurance brokerage and risk management services firm, is headquartered in Itasca, Illinois, has operations

in seven countries and does business in more than 100 countries around the world through a network of correspondent brokers and consultants. Gallagher is traded under the symbol "AJG" on the New York Stock Exchange. Additional information about Gallagher may be found at www.ajg.com.

This press release may contain certain forward-looking statements relating to future results. The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a safe harbor for forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expected, depending on a variety of factors such as changes in worldwide and national economic conditions and changes in securities and fixed income markets as well as developments in the area of tax legislation. Please refer to our filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K, for a more detailed discussion of these factors.

(2 of 4)

BROKERAGE SEGMENT	1st Q 01	2nd Q 01	3rd Q 01	4th Q 01	1st Q 02	2nd Q 02
Commissions					\$143.1	
Fees					20.1	
Investment income - fiduciary				2.6		2.5
Gross revenues	136.5	141.6	155.9	178.3	164.9	183.6
Less brokerage				(8.9)	(10.2)	(10.3
Revenues	129.1	132.8	146.0		154.7	
Compensation					94.0	
Other operating	28.3	28.0	28.4	37.1	31.2	36.8
Depreciation	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.6	2.7
Amortization	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.5	1.2	2.2
Expenses	106.0	106.8	111.3		129.0	
Earnings before income taxes					25.7	29.0
Provison for income taxes	4.8	5.0	0.1	3.6	8.0	8.4
Net earnings	\$ 18.3	\$ 21.0	\$ 34.6		\$ 17.7	
Earnings per share					\$ 0.20	
Cash earnings per share (2)	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.26
Growth - revenues	7%	11%	10%	18%	20%	30%
Organic growth in commissions						
and fees	10%	16%	13%	18%	14%	16%
Growth - pretax earnings	17%	65%	15%	6%	11%	11%
1	55%			53%	57%	56%
Other operating expense ratio				21%		20%
Effective tax rate				11%		29%
Pretax margin	17%	18%	22%	19%	16%	16%
RISK MANAGEMENT SEGMENT					1st Q 02	
Fees	\$ 65.4	\$ 65.0	\$ 67.6	\$ 65.6	\$ 69.8	\$ 67.5

Investment income - fiduciary	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Revenues	65.8	65.3	67.8	65.8	70.0	67.7
Compensation	35.6	36.5	37.4	40.7	37.8	38.5
Other operating	19.2	19.2	19.2	18.1	18.6	18.5
Depreciation	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	2.0	2.3
Amortization	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	_
Expenses	56.6	57.6	58.5	60.7	58.4	59.3
Earnings before income taxes	9.2	7.7	9.3	5.1	11.6	8.4
Provison for income taxes	1.8	1.5	_	0.5	3.6	2.4
Net earnings	\$ 7.4	\$ 6.2	\$ 9.3	\$ 4.6	\$ 8.0	\$ 6.0
Earnings per share	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.06
Cash earnings per share (2)	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.08
Growth - revenues	19%	17%	12%	8%	7%	4%
Organic growth in fees	19%	18%	12%	9%	7%	4%
Growth - pretax earnings	1%	3%	-3%	-9%	26%	9%
Compensation expense ratio	54%	56%	55%	62%	54%	57%
Other operating expense ratio	29%	30%	28%	28%	27%	27%
Effective tax rate	20%	19%	0%	11%	31%	29%
Pretax margin	14%	12%	14%	8%	17%	12%
FINANCIAL SERVICES SEGMENT	1st Q 01	2nd Q 01	3rd Q 01	4th Q 01	1st Q 02	2nd Q 02
Investment income	\$ 8.2	\$ 5.1	\$ 5.9	\$ 10.0	\$ 15.7	\$ 12.7
Gains (losses)	6.2	1.9	6.1	2.6	(1.4)	13.1
Revenues	14.4	7.0	12.0	12.6	14.3	25.8
Expenses	12.6	12.0	14.0	14.4	2.8	14.6
Earnings (loss) before						
income taxes	1.8	(5.0)	(2.0)	(1.8)	11.5	11.2
Provison (benefit) for income taxes	0.4	(1.0)	_	(0.2)	3.5	3.3
Net earnings (loss)	\$ 1.4	\$ (4.0)	\$ (2.0)	\$ (1.6)	\$ 8.0	\$ 7.9
Earnings (loss) per share	\$ 0.02	\$(0.04)	\$ (0.02)		\$ 0.09	\$ 0.09
	======				=======	

- (1) The information presented above has been reclassified to reflect the current year presentation. In prior years, the Company has presented a "Corporate" segment. For purposes of this and future presentations, the Corporate segment has been allocated to each of the three operating segments.
- (2) Represents net earnings before the after-tax effect of depreciation and amortization expense divided by the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period.

(3 of 4)

Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

Consolidated Statement of Earnings (unaudited) (\$ in millions except per share data)

TOTAL COMPANY	1st Q 01	2nd Q 01	3rd Q 01	4th Q 01	1st Q 02	2nd Q 0
Commissions	\$ 121.3	\$ 125.7	\$ 136.4	\$ 154.5	\$ 143.1	\$ 156.
Fees	76.7	77.8	84.6	86.8	89.9	91.
Investment income - fiduciary	4.3	3.4	2.7	2.8	1.9	2.
Investment income - all other	8.2	5.1	5.9	10.0	15.7	12.
Investment gains (losses)		1.9			(1.4)	
Gross revenues					249.2	
Less brokerage	(7.4)	(8.8)	(9.9)	(8.9)	(10.2)	(10.
Revenues		205.1			239.0	266.
Compensation		112.5				
Other operating	47.5	47.2	47.6	55.2	49.8	55.
Depreciation		4.0				5.
Amortization	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.6	1.2	2.
Other investment expenses	12.6	12.0	14.0	14.4	2.8	14.
Expenses		176.4			190.2	
Earnings before income taxes	34.1					
Provison for income taxes	7.0	5.5	0.1	3.9	15.1	14.
Net earnings		\$ 23.2				\$ 34.
Earnings per share	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.37	,
Cash dividends per share		\$ 0.13		\$ 0.13		\$ 0.1
	=======			=======	=======	

Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.
Consolidated Balance Sheet
(unaudited)
(\$ in millions except per share data)

	3/31/01	6/30/01	9/30/01	12/31/01	3/31/02	6/30/
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 128.6	\$ 106.9	\$ 127.8	\$ 98.5	\$ 103.2	\$ 110
Restricted cash	157.9	179.1	189.9	209.5	246.8	226
Premiums and fees receivable	783.4	922.1	850.1	1,117.2	1,088.8	1,255
Investment strategies trading	48.7	49.3	48.7	52.6	53.5	53
Marketable securities trading						
Other	45.1	48.3	61.3	85.2	84.7	99
Total current assets	1,163.7	1,305.7	1,277.8	1,563.0	1,577.0	1,745
Total current assets Marketable securities	1,163.7	1,305.7	1,277.8	1,563.0	1,577.0	1 <b>,</b> 745
	1,163.7 24.8	1,305.7 22.9	1,277.8 18.5	1,563.0 18.3	1,577.0 16.6	1,745 15
Marketable securities	,	·	,	·	•	
Marketable securities available for sale	24.8	22.9	18.5	18.3	16.6	15
Marketable securities available for sale Deferred income taxes	24.8	22.9	18.5	18.3	16.6	15 99
Marketable securities available for sale Deferred income taxes Other investments and notes	24.8	22.9	18.5 48.9	18.3	16.6 99.4	15 99 204
Marketable securities available for sale Deferred income taxes Other investments and notes receivable	24.8 48.8 171.8	22.9 48.3 172.7	18.5 48.9	18.3 99.3 192.0	16.6 99.4 191.5	15

Accumulated depreciation and amortization		(98.3)		(100.6)		(114
Net fixed assets Goodwill net	172.0		176.2	183.2		241 58
Amortizable intangible assets net		3.8		9.9		
Total assets	\$ 1,602.9	\$ 1,754.9	\$ 1,727.8	\$ 2,145.4	\$ 2,172.6	\$ 2,448
Premiums payable Accrued salaries and bonuses Accounts payable and other	\$ 964.0 20.4	\$ 1,094.5 23.4	\$ 1,065.0 33.1	\$ 1,366.5 56.6	\$ 1,352.0 61.0	\$ 1,536 34
accrued liabilities		116.7	108.0	111.6	114.2	112
Unearned fees	17.5		18.1	16.5	17.4	19
Income taxes payable	8.4	1.1	1.2	33.7	17.4	0
Borrowings on line of credit facilities Borrowings on line of credit		8.5	5.0	35.0	50.0	65
facilities limited partnerships			4.4	3.6	7.1	10
Current portion of longterm			4.1	٥.٠	/ • ±	Τ 0
debt limited partnerships	4.1	4.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	5
Other				11.3		5
Other						
Total current liabilities:	1,132.7		1,252.5	1,638.0	1,631.2	
Longterm debt limited						
partnerships				96.7		132
Other noncurrent liabilities				39.1		
Stockholders' equity: Common stock issued and						
outstanding	84.7	84.7	84.7	85.1	86.1	88
Capital in excess of par value	21.8	24.5	3.0	8./	34.0	88
Retained earnings	233.0	232.0	261.9	283.8	304.6	325
Unearned deferred compensation		(3.8)		(3.4)	(7.3)	
Unearned restricted stock					(10.0)	(9
Accumulated other comprehensive						
earnings (loss)	(1.4)	(1.8)			(2.8)	(3.
Total stockholders' equity				371.6		
Total liabilities and						
stockholders' equity				\$ 2,145.4		
Other Information						
Weighted shares (000s)	90,091	89 <b>,</b> 756	90,074	90,656	90,595	92,3
Tangible net worth	\$ 320.8	\$ 312.9	\$ 320.3	\$ 306.2	\$ 331.8	\$ 375
Book value per share	\$ 3.99	\$ 3.96	\$ 4.05	\$ 4.37	\$ 4.70	\$ 5.
Tangible book value per share	\$ 3.79	\$ 3.69	\$ 3.78	\$ 306.2 \$ 4.37 \$ 3.60	\$ 3.85	\$ 4.
Annualized return on beginning						
equity	33%			38%	36%	3
Number of acquisitions closed	3	3			2	
Workforce (includes acquisitions)	5,831	6,029	6,160	6,499	6 <b>,</b> 578	6,8

(4 of 4)