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Check box if the filing relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer.

Check the appropriate boxes to designate any transactions to which this statement relates:

- third party tender offer subject to Rule 14d-1.  
 issuer tender offer subject to Rule 13e-4.  
 going-private transaction subject to Rule 13e-3.  
 amendment to Schedule 13D under Rule 13d-2.

Check the following box if the filing is a final amendment reporting the results of the tender offer:

KATY NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KATY INDUSTRIES, INC.  
ANNOUNCES RESULTS FOR FOURTH QUARTER AND YEAR 2000  
AND DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT FOR RECAPITALIZATION

ENGLEWOOD, CO - March 30, 2001 -- Katy Industries, Inc. (NYSE: KT) today reported a net loss for the fourth quarter of 2000 of (\$2,275,000) or (\$.28) per diluted share, compared to net income of \$4,459,000, or \$.49 per diluted share, in the fourth quarter of 1999. Fourth quarter results of 2000 include unusual charges totaling (\$706,000) after-tax, or (\$.08) per share, while the same period results of 1999 include unusual income of \$2,238,000 after-tax, or \$.22 per diluted share. Unusual items are detailed on a schedule accompanying this release.

For the full year 2000, the Company reported a net loss of (\$5,458,000) or (\$.65) per diluted share, compared to net income of \$10,455,000, or \$1.21 per diluted share, in 1999. The year 2000 results include unusual charges totaling (\$3,237,000) after-tax, or (\$.39) per share, while 1999's results include unusual income of \$1,848,000 after-tax, or \$.18 per diluted share.

Katy indicated that it expects a loss for the first quarter of 2001 from its continuing segments which is estimated to be in the range of (\$.20) to (\$.30) per share, excluding unusual charges.

Katy also announced that the Board had determined to suspend payments of quarterly dividends and that the Company has obtained waivers from its existing bank lenders for compliance with certain financial covenants through June 30, 2001.

Katy further announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement with an affiliate of Kohlberg Investors IV, L.P. an affiliate of Kohlberg & Co. L.L.C. ("Kohlberg") for a recapitalization of Katy. Under the agreement, the Kohlberg affiliate would commence a tender offer for up to 2,500,000 shares of Katy common stock at a price of \$8.00 per share and would purchase at least 400,000 shares of newly issued convertible preferred stock at \$100 per share for not

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less than \$40,000,000. Proceeds from the newly issued convertible preferred stock would principally be used to reduce Katy's existing debt and would also be used to partially redeem a third party's preferred interest in a Katy subsidiary.

Each preferred share would be convertible into 12.5 shares of common stock. The common stock underlying the preferred, together with the common stock to be purchased in the tender offer, would represent a majority of the outstanding common stock after giving effect to the conversion of the preferred.

The Kohlberg affiliate has obtained a commitment letter from Deutsche Banc Alex. Brown to provide Katy up to \$150 million of senior secured term and revolving loans to refinance the balance of the Company's existing debt.

Completion of the transaction is subject to a number of conditions, including affirmative vote of Katy's shareholders to authorize the convertible preferred stock and to elect six Kohlberg designees as directors of the Company, who will then represent a majority of the Board, and completion of the sale of an operating subsidiary pursuant to an existing letter of intent.

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KATY INDUSTRIES, INC.  
HEADQUARTERS  
6300 S. SYRACUSE WAY, SUITE 300, ENGLEWOOD, CO 80111-6723  
TELEPHONE: (303) 290-9300 \* FACSIMILE: (303) 290-9344  
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Shareholder approval of the transaction will be the subject of a proxy statement expected to be mailed to Katy shareholders in April for a shareholders' meeting to be held in May, 2001. The tender offer will not be commenced until the proxy statement is mailed.

Mr. Robert M. Baratta, Katy's Chief Executive Officer, commented: "This transaction will increase Katy's financial strength. Shareholders will have the opportunity to tender shares in the tender offer at a substantial premium over our recent market price. Through the shares they keep, they will also be able to participate in the future of a financially stronger Katy."

Katy Industries, Inc. is a diversified corporation with interests primarily in Electrical/Electronics and Maintenance Products.

Kohlberg is a private merchant banking firm with offices in New York and California. Founded in 1987, Kohlberg has completed more than 70 acquisitions and recapitalization transactions in a variety of industries.

Company contact:

Stephen Nicholson, Vice President of Finance, in Englewood at (303) 290-9300, or at [www.katyindustries.com](http://www.katyindustries.com)

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Where You Can Find Additional Information:

Katy strongly advises all Katy shareholders to read Katy's proxy statement, which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC").

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Katy's proxy statement will contain important information that you should consider before making any decision about the proposals to be voted on at Katy's shareholder meeting. When completed, Katy's proxy statement will be mailed to all Katy shareholders and will be available, together with the annual report, quarterly reports, current reports and other documents filed by Katy, at no charge at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov> or from Katy by contacting Stephen Nicholson at (303) 290-9300.

Katy and certain other persons named below may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies under the rules of the SEC. Participants may include (1) the current directors of Katy: William F. Andrews, Robert M. Baratta, Amelia M. Carroll, Daniel B. Carroll, Wallace E. Carroll, Jr., Arthur R. Miller, Charles W. Sahlman, Jacob Saliba and Glenn W. Turcotte, (2) the nominees to the board who are not currently directors: C. Michael Jacobi, Christopher Anderson, Samuel P. Frieder, James A. Kohlberg and Christopher Lacovara and (3) the executive officers of Katy who are not directors: Roger G. Engle, Larry D. Hudson, Michael H. Kane, Stephen P. Nicholson and William J. Wagner. A description of any interests that these persons have in proposals to be voted on at Katy's shareholder meeting will be available in the proxy statement.

This announcement is neither an offer to purchase nor a solicitation of an offer to sell shares of Katy. At the time the tender offer is commenced, the acquiring entity will file a tender offer statement and Katy will file a solicitation/recommendation statement with the SEC with respect to the tender offer. The tender offer statement (including the offer to purchase, the related letter of transmittal and the other offer documents attached as exhibits

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thereto) and the solicitation/recommendation statement will contain important information which should be read carefully before any decision is made with respect to the tender offer. The offer to purchase, the related letter of transmittal and certain other offer documents, as well as the solicitation/recommendation statement, will be made available to all Katy shareholders at no expense to them. The tender offer statement (including the offer to purchase, the related letter of transmittal and all other offer documents filed with the SEC) and the solicitation/recommendation statement will also be available at no charge at the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

Some of the foregoing communications constitute "forward-looking statements". Such forward-looking statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties and Katy claims the protection afforded by the safe harbor for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements include all statements regarding the timing, completion and effect of the proposed recapitalization of Katy. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, including risks of consummation of the sale of the subsidiary of the Company referred to above, the ability to consummate the new financing with Bankers Trust Company and the ability to obtain the needed shareholder approvals on a

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timely basis, that, together with other risks and uncertainties detailed from time to time in Katy's filings with the SEC, may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of Katy to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. The safe harbor is not applicable to the foregoing communications to the extent that they constitute tender offer materials and has not been judicially determined to be applicable to such communications to the extent that they constitute soliciting materials in connection with the tender offer.

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KATY INDUSTRIES, INC.

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KATY INDUSTRIES, INC. SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

(In thousands, except per share data)

	Twelve Months Ended		
	December 31, 2000	December 31, 1999	I
Sales	\$ 553,249	\$ 565,941	(
Cost of goods sold	399,315	391,382	)
	153,934	174,559	)
Gross profit			
Selling, general & administrative expenses	144,839	146,788	)
	9,095	27,771	)
Operating income			
Equity in loss of operations to be disposed of	(853)	(206)	)
Interest and other, net	(14,011)	(10,515)	)
	(5,769)	17,050	)
(Loss) income before provision for income taxes			
Benefit from (provision for) income taxes	2,022	(3,217)	)
	(3,747)	13,833	)
(Loss) income before distributions on preferred securities			
Distributions on preferred interest of subsidiary, net of tax	(1,711)	(1,678)	)
	(5,458)	12,155	)
(Loss) income from continuing operations			
Discontinued operations	--	(1,700)	)
	(\$5,458)	\$ 10,455	)
Net (loss) income	(\$5,458)	\$ 10,455	)
	(\$0.19)	\$ 1.25	)
Earnings (loss) per share of common stock - Basic			
Continuing segments - businesses to be retained	(0.39)	0.22	)
Unusual items (1)	(0.07)	(0.02)	)
Operations to be disposed of			
	(\$0.65)	\$ 1.45	)
Income from continuing operations			
Discontinued operations	--	(0.20)	)
	(\$0.65)	\$ 1.25	)
Net (loss) income	(\$0.65)	\$ 1.25	)

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Earnings (loss) per share of common stock - Diluted			
Continuing segments - businesses to be retained	(\$0.19)	\$	1.21
Unusual items (1)	(0.39)		0.18
Operations to be disposed of	(0.07)		(0.01)
	-----	-----	-----
Income from continuing operations	(\$0.65)	\$	1.38
Discontinued operations	--		(0.17)
	-----	-----	-----
Net (loss) income	(\$0.65)	\$	1.21
	=====	=====	=====
Average shares outstanding - Basic	8,404		8,366
	=====	=====	=====
Average shares outstanding - Diluted	8,404		10,015
	=====	=====	=====
Dividends paid per share	\$ 0.300	\$	0.300
	=====	=====	=====
Other Information			
-----			
Working capital, including current maturities of indebtedness in 2000 of \$133,067	(\$ 28,265)	\$	120,893
	=====	=====	=====
Preferred interest in subsidiary	\$ 32,900	\$	32,900
	=====	=====	=====
Stockholders' equity	\$ 150,333	\$	160,311
	=====	=====	=====
Capital expenditures	\$ 14,196	\$	21,066
	=====	=====	=====
Operating income by segment:			
Electrical/Electronics	\$ 8,055	\$	8,303
Maintenance Products	10,298		29,458
Corporate	(9,258)		(9,990)
	-----	-----	-----
Total	\$ 9,095	\$	27,771
	=====	=====	=====

N/M Not meaningful

(1) See attached Schedule of Unusual Items

KATY INDUSTRIES, INC. SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

(In thousands, except per share data)

Three Months Ended

-----  
December 31,                      December 31,

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	2000 -----	1999 -----
Sales	\$ 139,783	\$ 164,570
Cost of goods sold	104,716	118,025
	-----	-----
Gross profit	35,067	46,545
Selling, general & administrative expenses	34,413	39,252
	-----	-----
Operating income	654	7,293
Equity in income of operations to be disposed of	44	716
Interest and other, net	(3,554)	(2,114)
	-----	-----
(Loss) income before income taxes	(2,856)	5,895
Benefit from income taxes	1,011	687
	-----	-----
(Loss) income before distributions on preferred securities	(1,845)	6,582
Distributions on preferred interest of subsidiary, net of tax	(430)	(423)
	-----	-----
(Loss) income from continuing operations	(2,275)	6,159
Discontinued operations	--	(1,700)
	-----	-----
Net (loss) income	(\$2,275)	\$ 4,459
	=====	=====
Earnings (loss) per share of common stock - Basic		
Continuing segments - businesses to be retained	(\$0.20)	\$ 0.41
Unusual items (1)	(0.08)	0.27
Operations to be disposed of	0.00	0.05
	-----	-----
Income from continuing operations	(\$0.28)	\$ 0.73
Discontinued operations	--	(0.20)
	-----	-----
Net (loss) income	(\$0.28)	\$ 0.53
	=====	=====
Earnings (loss) per share of common stock - Diluted		
Continuing segments - businesses to be retained	(\$0.20)	\$ 0.39
Unusual items (1)	(0.08)	0.22
Operations to be disposed of	0.00	0.05
	-----	-----
Income from continuing operations	(\$0.28)	\$ 0.66
Discontinued operations	--	(0.17)
	-----	-----
Net (loss) income	(\$0.28)	\$ 0.49
	=====	=====
Average shares outstanding - Basic	8,396	8,380
	=====	=====
Average shares outstanding - Diluted	8,396	9,972
	=====	=====
Dividends paid per share	\$ 0.075	\$ 0.075
	=====	=====
Other Information		
-----		
Working capital, including current maturities of indebtedness in 2000 of \$133,067	(\$28,265)	\$ 120,893
	=====	=====

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Preferred interest in subsidiary	\$ 32,900	\$ 32,900
	=====	=====
Stockholders' equity	\$ 150,333	\$ 160,311
	=====	=====
Capital expenditures	\$ 2,468	\$ 9,810
	=====	=====
Operating income by segment:		
Electrical/Electronics	\$ 2,968	\$ 3,667
Maintenance Products	(513)	5,433
Corporate	(1,801)	(1,807)
	-----	-----
Total	\$ 654	\$ 7,293
	=====	=====

N/M Not meaningful

(1) See attached Schedule of Unusual Items

KATY INDUSTRIES, INC. SUMMARY OF UNUSUAL ITEMS

(In thousands, except per share data)  
(all items after-tax)

	Three Months Ended				Two Months Ended
	December 31, 2000		December 31, 1999		
	Amount	Diluted Per Share	Amount	Diluted Per Share	Amount
Severance and other restructuring	(\$300)	(\$0.03)	(\$363)	(\$0.04)	(\$1,723)
Product recall	--	--	--	--	(523)
LIFO inventory adjustments	162	0.02	(669)	(0.07)	(423)
Inventory adjustments	(892)	(0.11)	--	--	(892)
Proceeds on previously written-off notes and investments	324	0.04	520	0.05	324
Reduction of income tax reserves	--	--	2,750	0.28	--
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(\$706)	(\$0.08)	\$ 2,238	\$0.22	(\$3,237)
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====