

ALTRIA GROUP, INC.
Form 8-K
December 07, 2007

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): December 4, 2007

ALTRIA GROUP, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Virginia
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

1-8940
(Commission File Number)

13-3260245
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

120 Park Avenue, New York, New York
(Address of principal executive offices)

10017-5592
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (917) 663-4000

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Edgar Filing: ALTRIA GROUP, INC. - Form 8-K

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))
-

Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On December 4, 2007, Philip Morris International Inc. (PMI), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Altria Group, Inc. (Altria), entered into a credit agreement (the Credit Agreement) relating to (i) a senior unsecured 5-year revolving credit facility (the 5-Year Revolving Credit Facility), (ii) a senior unsecured 3-year revolving credit facility (the 3-Year Revolving Credit Facility, and together with the 5-Year Revolving Credit Facility, the Revolving Credit Facilities) and (iii) a senior unsecured 364-day term loan facility (the Term Facility, and together with the Revolving Credit Facilities, the Facilities), with the lenders named therein and J.P. Morgan Europe Limited, as facility agent. The Facilities are not guaranteed by Altria and Altria has no obligations thereunder. The 5-Year Revolving Credit Facility provides for borrowings up to an aggregate principal amount of US\$3.0 billion (or the equivalent in Euro) and expires on December 4, 2012. The 3-Year Revolving Credit Facility provides for borrowings up to an aggregate principal amount of US\$1.0 billion (or the equivalent in Euro) and expires on December 4, 2010. The Term Facility provides for borrowings up to an aggregate principal amount of EUR 1.5 billion and expires on December 2, 2008.

Interest rates on borrowings under the Facilities will be based on prevailing interest rates for the Euro or U.S. Dollar, as applicable, and as further described in the Credit Agreement.

The Revolving Credit Facilities will be used for general corporate purposes, including commercial paper backstop. The Term Facility will be used for general corporate purposes, including the refinancing of amounts outstanding under the term facility dated May 12, 2005, among PMI, the lenders party thereto and Citibank International plc, as facility agent (2005 Term Facility).

The Credit Agreement requires the maintenance of an EBITDA to interest ratio, as defined therein, of not less than 3.5 to 1.

The Credit Agreement permits PMI to designate any wholly-owned subsidiary as a borrower under the Facilities. The obligations of any designated subsidiary under the Credit Agreement will be guaranteed by PMI. FTR Holding S.A. (FTRH), a wholly-owned subsidiary of PMI, was designated as a borrower at the time of the closing of the Facilities.

The Credit Agreement contains certain events of default customary for credit facilities of this type (with customary grace periods, as applicable), including nonpayment of principal or interest when due; material incorrectness of representations and warranties when made; breach of covenants; bankruptcy and insolvency; unsatisfied ERISA obligations; unstayed material judgment beyond specified periods; acceleration or payment default of other material indebtedness; and invalidation of PMI's guaranty.

If any events of default occur and are not cured within applicable grace periods or waived, the outstanding loans may be accelerated and the lenders' commitments may be terminated. The occurrence of the bankruptcy and insolvency event of default will result in the automatic termination of commitments and acceleration of outstanding loans under the Credit Agreement.

Some of the lenders under the agreements and their affiliates have various relationships with Altria, PMI and their subsidiaries involving the provision of financial services, including cash management, investment banking and trust services. In addition, Altria, PMI and some of their subsidiaries have entered into foreign exchange and other derivative arrangements with certain of the lenders and their affiliates.

The description above is a summary and is qualified in its entirety by the Credit Agreement, which is filed as Exhibit 10.1 to this report.

Item 2.03. Creation of a Direct Financial Obligation or an Obligation under an Off-Balance Sheet Arrangement of a Registrant.

On December 4, 2007, FTRH borrowed EUR 1.5 billion under the Term Facility to repay the 2005 Term Facility.

The additional disclosure required by this item is included in Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits

10.1 Philip Morris International Inc. Credit Agreement dated as of December 4, 2007.

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.

ALTRIA GROUP, INC.

By: /s/ G. Penn Holsenbeck

Name: G. Penn Holsenbeck

Title: Vice President, Associate General Counsel and
Corporate Secretary

DATE: December 7, 2007

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|--------------------|---|
| 10.1 | Philip Morris International Inc. Credit Agreement dated as of December 4, 2007. |