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 22, 2004

Commission file number 001-16111



GLOBAL PAYMENTS INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

Georgia (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 58-2567903 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

10 Glenlake Parkway, North Tower, Atlanta, Georgia (Address of principal executive offices)

30328-3495 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 770-829-8234

NONE

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, 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 flowing provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

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 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition

The following information is furnished pursuant to Item 2.02, "Results of Operations and Financial Condition."

On December 22, 2004, Global Payments Inc., a Georgia corporation, issued a press release announcing its financial results for the second quarter ended November 30, 2004. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this report.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits

Exhibit Number Description

99.1 Press Release dated December 22, 2004.

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 thereunto duly authorized.

Global Payments Inc. (Registrant)

Date: December 22, 2004

By: /s/ James G. Kelly

James G. Kelly Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)

3

For Immediate Release

Contact: Jane M. Forbes 770-829-8234 Voice 770-829-8267 Fax investor.relations@globalpay.com

Global Payments Reports Second Quarter Earnings

ATLANTA, December 22, 2004 — Global Payments Inc. (NYSE: GPN) today announced results for the second quarter ended November 30, 2004. For the second quarter, revenue grew 27 percent to \$188.5 million compared to \$148.4 million in the prior year. This includes \$31.2 million in revenue recorded in the current quarter from the company's DolEx and MUZO acquisitions, which were completed during fiscal 2004. The company had previously recorded \$3.8 million in revenue in the prior year quarter from the DolEx acquisition, which annualized on November 12, 2004. Net income grew 59 percent to \$23.6 million compared to \$14.9 million in the prior year quarter, and diluted earnings per share grew 55 percent to \$0.59 compared to \$0.38 in the prior year quarter. Excluding a prior year restructuring charge of \$3.1 million, net income grew 40 percent from \$16.8 million last year, and diluted earnings per share grew 37 percent from \$0.43 last year.

For the six months ending November 30, 2004, revenue grew 34 percent to \$381.1 million compared to \$284.9 million in the prior year period. Net income grew 56 percent to \$47.8 million from \$30.7 million in the prior period, and diluted earnings per share grew 51 percent to \$1.21 from \$0.80 in the prior year period. Excluding prior year restructuring charges of \$4.7 million, net income grew 42 percent from \$33.6 million last year, and diluted earnings per share grew 39 percent from \$0.87 last year.

Comments and Outlook

Chairman, President and CEO, Paul R. Garcia, stated, "We are pleased to report another quarter of strong financial results driven by the impact of our DolEx and MUZO acquisitions and continued momentum in our core domestic direct channel. We also continue to gain operating leverage through greater economies of scale and the benefit from last year's consolidation of certain operating functions. Further, we are delighted to add Europhil to the Global Payments' family and look forward to expanding the presence of our consumer-to-consumer money transfer offering into Europe. Based on our financial results and the expected impact of our Europhil acquisition, we are raising our fiscal 2005 annual revenue guidance to a range of \$758 million



GPN Reports Second Quarter Fiscal 2005 Earnings December 22, 2004 Page 2

to \$768 million versus \$629 million in fiscal 2004, a growth of 21 percent to 22 percent. Also based on our financial results and our higher than expected operating margins, we are raising our fiscal 2005 annual diluted earnings per share guidance to a range of \$2.24 to \$2.30 for growth of 28 percent to 31 percent versus diluted earnings per share of \$1.75 in fiscal 2004, excluding restructuring and other items (\$1.60 in fiscal 2004 on a GAAP basis)."

Conference Call

Global Payments will hold a conference call on December 23, 2004 at 10:30 a.m. EST to discuss financial results, business highlights, and the Europhil transaction. The conference call may be accessed by calling 1-888-790-1641 (U.S.) or 1-210-234-8000 (internationally) and using a pass code of "GPN" for both numbers, or via Web cast at www.globalpaymentsinc.com. A replay of the call will be available on the Global Payments Web site through January 12, 2005.

Global Payments Inc. (NYSE:GPN) is a leading provider of electronic transaction processing services for consumers, merchants, Independent Sales Organizations (ISOs), financial institutions, government agencies and multi-national corporations located throughout the United States, Canada, Latin America and Europe. Global Payments offers a comprehensive line of processing solutions for credit and debit cards, business-to-business purchasing cards, gift cards, electronic check conversion and check guarantee, check verification and recovery, terminal management and money transfer services. For more information about the company and its services, visit www.globalpaymentsinc.com.

¹ The fiscal 2004 diluted earnings per share of \$1.60 on a GAAP basis reflects restructuring and other items of \$5.7 million, net of tax, or \$0.15 diluted earnings per share.

###

This announcement and comments made by Global Payments' management during the conference call may contain forward-looking statements pursuant to the "safe-harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward looking statements involve risks and uncertainties such as product demand, market and customer acceptance, the effect of economic conditions, competition, pricing, development difficulties, foreign currency risks, costs of capital, continued certification by credit card associations, the ability to consummate and integrate acquisitions, and other risks detailed in the Company's SEC filings, including the most recently filed Form 10-Q or Form 10K, as applicable. The Company undertakes no obligation to revise any of these statements to reflect future circumstances or the occurrence of unanticipated events.

	Three Months End	Three Months Ended November 30,	
	2004	2003	
Revenues	\$ 188,549	\$ 148,447	
Operating expenses:			
Cost of service	79,350	67,274	
Sales, general and administrative	68,421	51,947	
Restructuring and other		3,123	
	147,771	122,344	
Operating income	40,778	26,103	
Other income (expense):			
Interest and other income	397	429	
Interest and other expense	(1,835)	(1,059)	
Minority interest	(1,915)	(1,716)	
	(3,353)	(2,346)	
Income before income taxes	37,425	23,757	
Provision for income taxes	13,847	8,885	
Net income	\$ 23,578	\$ 14,872	
Earnings per share:			
Basic	\$ 0.61	\$ 0.40	
Busic	Ψ 0.01	\$ 0.40	
Diluted	\$ 0.59	\$ 0.38	
Weighted average shares outstanding:			
Basic	38,481	37,466	
Diluted	39,801	38,861	

	Six Months Ende	Six Months Ended November 30,	
	2004	2003	
Revenues	\$ 381,140	\$ 284,911	
Operating expenses:			
Cost of service	159,790	129,436	
Sales, general and administrative	138,958	97,488	
Restructuring and other		4,703	
	298,748	231,627	
Operating income	82,392	53,284	
Other income (expense):			
Interest and other income	716	753	
Interest and other expense	(3,477)	(1,635)	
Minority interest	(3,796)	(3,366)	
	(6,557)	(4,248)	
Income before income taxes	75,835	49,036	
Provision for income taxes	28,059	18,339	
Net income	\$ 47,776	\$ 30,697	
Earnings per share:			
Basic	\$ 1.25	\$ 0.82	
	·		
Diluted	\$ 1.21	\$ 0.80	
Weighted average shares outstanding:			
Basic	38,321	37,304	
Diluted	39,552	38,585	

CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS GLOBAL PAYMENTS INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

(In thousands)

	November 30, 2004	May 31, 2004
	(Unaudited)	
<u>Assets</u>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 31,267	\$ 34,472
Accounts receivable, net	53,423	47,414
Claims receivable, net	791	761
Settlement processing receivable, net	103,978	95,233
Other current assets	27,449	25,324
Current assets	216,908	203,204
Property and equipment, net	99,147	97,482
Goodwill	359,354	342,012
Intangible assets, net	184,415	182,658
Other assets	6,127	7,539
Total assets	\$ 865,951	\$ 832,895
Liabilities & Shareholders' Equity		
Line of credit	\$ 105,000	\$ 122,000
Line of credit with related party	56,140	83,109
Notes payable-current portion	2,574	3,409
Accounts payable and other accrued liabilities	84,478	79,773
Obligations under capital leases	1,251	1,190
Current liabilities	249,443	289,481
Notes payable	_	7,477
Obligations under capital leases	1,420	2,061
Other accrued liabilities	71,883	61,324
Total liabilities	322,746	360,343
Minority interest in equity of subsidiaries	17,139	23,130
Shareholders' equity	526,066	449,422
Total liabilities & shareholders' equity	\$ 865,951	\$ 832,895

UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOW GLOBAL PAYMENTS INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

(In thousands)

	Six months ended	Six months ended November 30,	
	2004	2003	
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income	\$ 47,776	\$ 30,697	
Non-cash items			
Depreciation and amortization	22,044	15,521	
Minority interest in earnings	3,796	3,366	
Other, net	2,216	4,206	
Changes in working capital, which provided (used) cash			
Settlement processing	(11,644)	311	
Other, net	898	874	
Net cash provided by operating activities	65,086	54,975	
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Capital expenditures	(14,795)	(9,668)	
Net business development activities	(12,286)	(61,460)	
Net cash used in investing activities	(27,081)	(71,128)	
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Net repayments on line of credit	(17,000)		
Net (repayments) borrowings on line of credit with related party	(26,969)	61,203	
Principal payments under capital leases and other notes	(8,892)	(904)	
Net stock issued to employees under stock plans and dividends	9,688	(814)	
Distributions to minority interests	(5,043)	(4,291)	
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(48,216)	55,194	
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	7,006	2,702	
(Decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(3,205)	41,743	
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	34,472	38,010	
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 31,267	\$ 79,753	

	2004	2003		
Three Months Ending November 30,	GAAP	Normalized	Restructuring ⁽¹⁾	GAAP \$148,447
Revenue	\$188,549	\$148,447	\$ —	
Operating expenses:				
Cost of service	79,350	67,274	_	67,274
Sales, general and administrative	68,421	51,947	_	51,947
Restructuring	<u> </u>		3,123	3,123
	147,771	119,221	3,123	122,344
Operating income	40,778	29,226	(3,123)	26,103
Operating meonic			(5,125)	20,103
Other income/(expense)				
Interest and other income	397	429	_	429
Interest and other expense	(1,835)	(1,059)	_	(1,059)
Minority interest in earnings	(1,915)	(1,716)		(1,716)
	(3,353)	(2,346)	_	(2,346)
Income before income taxes	37,425	26,880	(3,123)	23,757
Provision for income taxes	13,847	10,053	(1,168)	8,885
Net income	\$ 23,578	\$ 16,827	\$ (1,955)	\$ 14,872
Basic shares	38,481	37,466		37,466
Basic snares Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.61	\$ 0.45	\$ (0.05)	\$ 0.40
Basic earnings per snare	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.43	\$ (0.03)	\$ 0.40
Diluted shares	39,801	38,861	_	38,861
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 0.59	\$ 0.43	\$ (0.05)	\$ 0.38

⁽¹⁾ Primarily relating to severance and facilities due to redundant activities and facility closures, as well as the related income tax benefit using the company's effective tax rate.

	2004		2003		
Six Months Ending November 30,	GAAP \$381,140	Normalized	Restructuring ⁽¹⁾	GAAP \$284,911	
Revenue		\$284,911	s —		
Operating expenses:					
Cost of service	159,790	129,436		129,436	
Sales, general and administrative	138,958	97,488		97,488	
Restructuring			4,703	4,703	
	298,748	226,924	4,703	231,627	
Operating income	82,392	57,987	(4,703)	53,284	
operating meonic			(1,703)	33,201	
Other income/(expense)					
Interest and other income	716	753	_	753	
Interest and other expense	(3,477)	(1,635)	_	(1,635)	
Minority interest in earnings	(3,796)	(3,366)		(3,366)	
	(6,557)	(4,248)	_	(4,248)	
Income before income taxes	75,835	53,739	(4,703)	49,036	
Provision for income taxes	28,059	20,098	(1,759)	18,339	
Trovision for income taxes	26,039	20,098	(1,739)	10,339	
Net income	\$ 47,776	\$ 33,641	\$ (2,944)	\$ 30,697	
Basic shares	38,321	37,304		37,304	
Basic sarrings per share	\$ 1.25	\$ 0.90	\$ (0.08)	\$ 0.82	
Basic carrings per snare	φ 1.23	\$ 0.90	\$ (0.08)	\$ 0.82	
Diluted shares	39,552	38,585	_	38,585	
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 1.21	\$ 0.87	\$ (0.07)	\$ 0.80	

⁽¹⁾ Primarily relating to severance and facilities due to redundant activities and facility closures, as well as the related income tax benefit using the company's effective tax rate.