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KOMATSU LTD
Form 6-K
August 12, 2002

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D. C. 20549

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of August 2002

COMMISSION FILE NUMBER: 1-7239

KOMATSU LTD.

Translation of registrant's name into English

3-6 Akasaka 2-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan

Address of principal executive offices

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports
under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F X Form 40-F
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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information
contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the
Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes _____ No X

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in
connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-_____

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN REPORT

1. A company announcement made on August 12, 2002

SIGNATURES

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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.

KOMATSU LTD.

(Registrant)

Date: August 12, 2002

By: /s/ Kenji Kinoshita

Kenji Kinoshita
Executive Officer

[KOMATSU LOGO]

For Immediate Release

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Corporate Communications
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No. 0028 (1786)
Date: August 12, 2002
URL: <http://www.komatsu.com/>

Komatsu Announces First-Quarter Business Results for FY2003

In light of further facilitating disclosure, Komatsu Ltd. today announced first-quarter (April - June 2002) business results by operation for fiscal 2003 as follows.

Komatsu's consolidated financial statements conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Please also be advised that financial figures for the first quarter of the current fiscal year and those of the corresponding period last year are not audited by independent public accountants contracted by the Company.

1. Market Conditions by Operation [Construction and Mining Equipment Business] Total Demand by Region

(Based on Units and Estimated by Komatsu)

Regions	Compared to 1/st/ Qtr Last Year
Japan	- 30%
North America	- 5%
Europe	- 8%
Southeast Asia	+ 30%
China	+70%*
Other**	+16%

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*This growth rate is indicated for foreign companies only. Statistical data for Chinese-made equipment are not available.

**Other regions consist of the Middle East, Africa and CIS, Asia Pacific, and Central and South Americas.

.. In Japan, Komatsu faced a drastic drop of 30% in demand for the first quarter when compared to annual demand (- 15%) projected at the beginning of the current fiscal year.

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.. In North America, the Company met a decline in demand for mining equipment, which upturned last year. As to general construction equipment, while signs for recovery in demand emerged at the start of 2002, the degree of decline is growing, somewhat overshadowing the possibility of demand recovery today.

.. In Europe, while recovery of demand emerged in the United Kingdom, Italy and some other countries, demand continued to fall in Germany, the largest market of Europe, resulting in negative growth in Europe as a whole.

.. In Southeast Asia, overall demand kept an upward outlook. Nevertheless, there were some industrial sectors, such as forestry, which lagged behind in demand recovery.

.. In China, demand for medium-sized hydraulic excavators continued to expand substantially during the first quarter of the current fiscal year. It is important to realize, however, that this period is known to accommodate the largest demand of the year.

.. In other regions, overall demand increased. Demand was particularly strong in Saudi Arabia, UAE, Iran and other Middle East countries.

[Electronics Business]

.. Demand for silicon wafers has recovered dynamically since the beginning of this year after bottoming out in the summer of 2001. This market recovery was driven by supplementary demand for semiconductor inventories resulting from worldwide progress in inventory adjustment of IT-related equipment. Worldwide demand for silicon wafers in the first quarter of the current fiscal year expanded about 29% (on an area basis) from the corresponding period last year.

.. Demand for polycrystalline silicon for use in silicon wafers improved slowly after bottoming out in 2001, supported by business recovery of the major client industry of silicon wafers. The Company projects that demand in the first quarter of the current fiscal year should record double-digit growth over the preceding quarter.

.. Demand for thermoelectric modules for use in fiber optic communication networks remained sluggish for the first quarter of the current fiscal year, reflecting the lack of growth in facilities investment of telecommunications in North America.

[Others]

.. Concerning industrial vehicles (forklift trucks), demand continued to advance in the United States, the world's largest market. Meanwhile, Japanese demand declined 10% from the corresponding period last year.

.. With respect to industrial machinery such as sheet metal machinery and presses, overseas demand increased 12% on a basis of orders received over the

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corresponding period last year, against the backdrop of production transfers to overseas by manufacturers of automotive sheet metal parts. Contrarily, Japanese demand dropped 25% as affected by the sluggish economy.

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2. Sales

(Unit: Millions of yen)

	Three months ended June 30, 2002 (A)	Three months ended June 30, 2001 (B)	Difference (A) - (B)	
Construction & Mining Equipment	177,811	171,300	6,511	+ 3.8%
Japan	49,316	58,795	(9,479)	- 16.1%
Overseas	128,495	112,505	15,990	+ 14.2%
Electronics	21,310	22,310	(1,000)	- 4.5%
Others	45,928	45,986	(58)	- 0.1%
Total	245,049	239,596	5,453	+ 2.3%

3. Operating Income (Loss)

(Unit: Millions of yen)

	Three months ended June 30, 2002 (A)	Three months ended June 30, 2001 (B)	Difference (A) - (B)	
Construction & Mining Equipment	7,989	(2,206)	10,195	--
Electronics	(778)	(1,550)	772	--
Others	159	(1,341)	1,500	--
Elimination	(1,705)	(1,880)	175	--
Total	5,665	(6,977)	12,642	--

4. Sales of Construction & Mining Equipment by Region

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(Unit: Millions of yen)

	Three months ended June 30, 2002 (A)	Three months ended June 30, 2001 (B)	Difference (A) - (B)	
Japan	49,316	58,795	(9,479)	- 16.1%
The Americas	50,153	51,886	(1,733)	- 3.3%
Europe	32,644	28,440	4,204	+ 14.8%
Other regions	45,698	32,179	13,519	+ 42.0%
Total	177,811	171,300	6,511	+ 3.8%

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5. Topics

1) Komatsu has agreed to transform Komatsu Shantui Construction Machinery Co., Ltd. into a consolidated subsidiary by purchasing part of the equity held in this joint-venture company by a partner.

2) Komatsu successively launched its GALEO-series equipment such as the PC1250 and PC1800 super-large hydraulic excavators, the D275AX large bulldozer and the WA430 wheel loader. Overseas, the Company embarked on market introduction of new models of the PC200 hydraulic excavator.

3) In August this year, Komatsu issued straight bonds (Yen)20 billion due in 5 years and (Yen)10 billion due in 7 years). The Company plans to appropriate the funds raised to repayment of bank loans.

4) Komatsu made good progress in its capacity cost-reduction program. The Company anticipates positive results of about (Yen)10 billion for fiscal 2003 compared to fiscal 2002.

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