

SPARTON CORP
Form DEFA14A
July 11, 2017

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): July 7, 2017

SPARTON CORPORATION

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Ohio
(State or other
jurisdiction of incorporation)

1-1000
(Commission
File Number)

38-1054690
(IRS Employer
Identification Number)

425 N. Martingale Road

Suite 1000

Schaumburg, Illinois
(Address of principal executive offices)

60173-2213
(Zip Code)

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code): (800) 772-7866

N/A

(Former name or former address, 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 following provisions:

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.245)

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))
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 1.01. Entry Into a Material Definitive Agreements.

On July 7, 2017, Sparton Corporation, an Ohio corporation (the **Company**), entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the **Merger Agreement**) among the Company, Ultra Electronics Holdings plc, a company organized under the laws of England and Wales (**Parent**), and Ultra Electronics Aneira Inc., an Ohio corporation and an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Parent (**Merger Sub**). Upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Merger Agreement, Merger Sub will be merged with and into the Company (the **Merger**) with the Company surviving the Merger as a wholly owned subsidiary of Parent.

At the effective time of the Merger, each issued and outstanding share of common stock, par value \$1.25 per share, of the Company (each, a **Share**) (other than (i) Shares that immediately prior to the effective time of the Merger are owned by Parent, Merger Sub or any other wholly owned subsidiary of Parent or owned by the Company or any wholly owned subsidiary of the Company (including as treasury stock) and (ii) Shares that are held by any record holder who is entitled to demand and properly demands payment of the fair cash value of such Shares as a dissenting shareholder pursuant to, and who complies in all respects with, the provisions of Section 1701.85 of the Ohio General Corporation Law (the **OGCL**)) will be cancelled and converted into the right to receive \$23.50 per Share in cash, without interest.

The Board of Directors of the Company unanimously (i) determined that the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, including the Merger, are fair to the shareholders of the Company and in the best interests of the Company and the shareholders of the Company, (ii) declared advisable and approved the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, including the Merger, (iii) directed that the adoption of the Merger Agreement be submitted to a vote at a meeting of the shareholders of the Company and (iv) resolved to recommend that the shareholders of the Company adopt the Merger Agreement.

Consummation of the Merger is subject to the satisfaction or (to the extent permitted by law) waiver of specified closing conditions, including (i) the adoption of the Merger Agreement by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of all of the outstanding Shares entitled to vote thereon at a meeting of the Company's shareholders to be held on a date to be announced as promptly as practicable following the clearance by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the **SEC**) of the Company's proxy statement to be sent to the Company's shareholders for such meeting, (ii) approval of the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement for the purposes of Chapter 10 of the Listing Rules of the United Kingdom Listing Authority (the **UKLA**) by the affirmative vote of a simple majority of the votes cast by the shareholders of Parent at a general meeting of Parent to be held on a date to be announced as promptly as practicable following the approval by the United Kingdom Listing Authority of Parent's circular to be sent to Parent's shareholders for such meeting, (iii) the absence of any law, executive order, ruling, injunction or other order that restrains, enjoins or otherwise prohibits the consummation of the Merger, (iv) the waiting or other time periods applicable to the consummation of the Merger under the Investment Canada Act (or any extension thereof) shall have expired, lapsed or been terminated and any applicable regulatory clearance shall have been obtained (the **Investment Canada Clearance**), (v) the expiration or early termination of the applicable waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended (the **HSR Act**), (vi) all applicable waiting and other time periods applicable to the consummation of the Merger under the antitrust or competition Laws of each applicable non-U.S. jurisdiction shall have expired, lapsed or been terminated (as appropriate) and all antitrust or competition regulatory clearances applicable to the consummation of the Merger in each such jurisdiction shall have been obtained, in each case unless waived by Parent in its sole discretion (the **Foreign Antitrust Clearances**), (vii) any agreement with a governmental authority not to consummate the Merger, which agreement shall have been entered into with the prior written consent of both the Company and Parent, shall have expired or been terminated (the **Governmental Authority Agreements**), (viii) approval from The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (**CFIUS**), (ix) approval from the Defense Security Service of the United States Department of Defense (**DSS**), (x) expiration or waiver of any prior notice period under the United States Department of State's International Traffic in Arms Regulations (**ITAR**) and (xi) other customary closing conditions, including the accuracy of the other party's

representations and warranties, and the other party's compliance with its covenants and agreements

contained in the Merger Agreement (subject in the case of this clause (xi) to certain qualifications as to materiality). The Company and Parent have agreed to cooperate with each other and use their respective reasonable best efforts to take or cause to be taken all actions, and do or cause to be done all things, reasonably necessary and proper on their part under this Agreement and applicable law to consummate and make effective the Merger and the other transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement as soon as practicable, including preparing and filing as promptly as practicable all documentation to effect all necessary notices, reports and other filings and to obtain as promptly as practicable all consents, registrations, approvals, permits and authorizations necessary or advisable to be obtained from any third party and/or any governmental authority in order to consummate the Merger or any of the other transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement. Parent is not required as part of its reasonable best efforts obligation to divest any assets or businesses or engage in any other form of remediation or mitigation action (including holding assets or businesses separate or altering or restricting its business practices in any way), except for, if requested by a governmental authority, any disposal of (a) the Company's Manufacturing & Design Services business segment (MDS) or (b) any non-sonobuoy-related assets that, individually or in the aggregate, are not material in any respect to the Company and its subsidiaries. Further, Parent is not obligated to defend or initiate any legal proceeding by a governmental authority (1) regarding the legality of the Merger under any law, including any antitrust or competition law, or (2) in order to overturn any government regulatory action to prevent the consummation of the Merger or the other transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement. With respect to CFIUS matters, none of Parent or any of its subsidiaries is required to agree or commit to take any action or agree to any mitigation that could reasonably be expected to limit its freedom of action with respect to, or its ability to retain, any of the Company's businesses or product lines, except for operating the Company and its subsidiaries pursuant to Parent's existing Special Security Agreement. The transaction is not subject to a financing condition.

The Merger Agreement includes customary representations and warranties of the Company, Parent and Merger Sub. Many of the representations made by the Company are subject to and qualified by a Material Adverse Effect standard (as defined in the Merger Agreement). The Company, Parent and Merger Sub have also made certain covenants in the Merger Agreement, including covenants by the Company regarding the operation of its business and that of its subsidiaries prior to the effective time of the Merger and a customary non-solicitation covenant prohibiting the Company from soliciting, providing non-public information in response to, or entering into discussions or negotiations with respect to, proposals relating to alternative business combination transactions, except as permitted under the Merger Agreement. Parent, Merger Sub and the Company have agreed to cooperate with one another to arrange for the sale after the effective time of the Merger of MDS and achieve a tax-efficient disposition of MDS.

The Merger Agreement may be terminated by each of the Company and Parent under certain circumstances, including if the Merger is not consummated by January 31, 2018 (subject to a two-month extension at the election of either Parent or the Company, and a second extension for an additional four months in the sole discretion of Parent, if any of the closing conditions relating to the Investment Canada Clearance, the expiration or early termination of the waiting period under the HSR Act, the Foreign Antitrust Clearances, the Governmental Authority Agreements, approval by CFIUS, approval by DSS or the expiration or waiver of any prior notice period under the ITAR have not been satisfied by such date). The Merger Agreement provides for certain other termination rights for both the Company and Parent, and further provides that, upon termination of the Merger Agreement under certain specified circumstances, the Company will be required to pay Parent a termination fee of \$7.5 million or Parent will be required to pay the Company a termination fee of \$7.5 million.

The Company is required to prepare and file with the SEC, as promptly as practicable after the date of the Merger Agreement (and, in any event, within twenty business days), a proxy statement, in preliminary form, relating to the meeting of the Company's shareholders.

The foregoing description of the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Merger Agreement, which is filed as Exhibit 2.1 hereto, and is incorporated herein by reference. The Merger Agreement has been filed to provide information to investors

regarding its terms. It is not intended to provide any other factual information about the Company, Parent or Merger Sub, their respective businesses, or the actual conduct of their respective businesses during the period prior to the consummation of the Merger. The Merger Agreement and this summary should not be relied upon as disclosure about the Company, Parent or Merger Sub. None of the Company's shareholders or any other third parties should rely on the representations,

warranties and covenants in the Merger Agreement or any descriptions thereof as characterizations of the actual state of facts or conditions of the Company, Parent or Merger Sub or any of their respective subsidiaries or affiliates. The representations and warranties contained in the Merger Agreement are the product of negotiations among the parties thereto and that the parties made to, and solely for the benefit of, each other as of specified dates. The assertions embodied in those representations and warranties are subject to qualifications and limitations agreed to by the respective parties and are also qualified in important part by confidential disclosure schedules delivered in connection with the Merger Agreement. The representations and warranties may have been made for the purpose of allocating contractual risk between the parties to the agreements instead of establishing these matters as facts, and may be subject to standards of materiality applicable to the contracting parties that differ from those applicable to investors.

Safe Harbor and Fair Disclosure Statement

Safe Harbor statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: To the extent any statements made in this report contain information that is not historical, these statements are essentially forward-looking and are subject to risks and uncertainties, including the difficulty of predicting future results, the regulatory environment, fluctuations in operating results and other risks detailed from time to time in Sparton's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The matters discussed in this report may also involve risks and uncertainties concerning Sparton's services described in Sparton's filings with the SEC. In particular, see the risk factors described in Sparton's most recent Form 10-K and Form 10-Q. Additional factors may include the effect of the announcement of the merger and related transactions on Sparton's business relationships, operating results and business generally; the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstances that could give rise to the termination of the merger agreement with Ultra, and the risk that the merger agreement with Ultra may be terminated in circumstances that require Sparton to pay a termination fee to Ultra; the outcome of any legal proceedings that may be instituted against Sparton related to the merger agreement with Ultra; and the failure to satisfy conditions to completion of the merger with Ultra, including the receipt of all required regulatory clearances related to the merger with Ultra. Although we believe that these forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, there are many factors that could affect our actual financial results or results of operations and could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. All future written and oral forward-looking statements by us or persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained or referred to above. Except for Sparton's ongoing obligations to disclose material information as required by the federal securities laws, Sparton does not have any obligations or intention to release publicly any revisions to any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances in the future or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

Additional Information and Where to Find It

This communication may be deemed to be solicitation material in respect of the proposed acquisition of Sparton. In connection with the proposed transaction, Sparton will file with the SEC and mail or otherwise provide to its shareholders a proxy statement regarding the proposed transaction. **BEFORE MAKING ANY VOTING DECISION, SPARTON'S SHAREHOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THE PROXY STATEMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY WHEN IT BECOMES AVAILABLE AND ANY OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED MERGER OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE THEREIN BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION AND THE PARTIES TO THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION.** Investors and security holders may obtain a free copy of the proxy statement and other documents that Sparton files with the SEC (when available) from the SEC's website at www.sec.gov and Sparton's website at www.Sparton.com.

Sparton and its directors, executive officers and employees may be deemed, under SEC rules, to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from Sparton's shareholders with respect to the proposed acquisition. Shareholders may obtain information regarding the names, affiliations and interests of such individuals in Sparton's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 3, 2016, and its definitive proxy statement for the 2016 annual meeting of

shareholders. Additional information regarding the interests of such individuals in the proposed acquisition of Sparton by Ultra will be included in the proxy statement relating to such acquisition when it is filed with the SEC. These documents may be obtained free of charge from the SEC's website at www.sec.gov and Sparton's website at www.Sparton.com.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

A list of exhibits filed herewith is contained on the Exhibit Index immediately following the signature page and is incorporated herein by reference.

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.

SPARTON CORPORATION

Date: July 11, 2017

By: /s/ Joseph J. Hartnett

Name: Joseph J. Hartnett

Title: Interim President and Chief Executive Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit

No.	Description
10.1*	Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated July 7, 2017, among the Sparton Corporation, Ultra Electronics Holdings plc and Ultra Electronics Aneira Inc.

* The exhibits to the Agreement and Plan of Merger have been omitted from this filing pursuant to Item 601(b)(2) of Regulation S-K. The Company agrees to furnish supplementally a copy of any omitted exhibits to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon request.