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**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) March 24, 2020

**AXALTA COATING SYSTEMS LTD.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Bermuda	001-36733	98-1073028
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(IRS Employer Identification No.)

Two Commerce Square, 2001 Market Street, Suite 3600, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103  
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(855) 547-1461  
Registrant's telephone number, including area code

Not Applicable  
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

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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 (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))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Common Shares, \$1.00 par value	AXTA	New York Stock Exchange
(Title of class)	(Trading symbol)	(Exchange on which registered)

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. ☐

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**Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.**

On March 24, 2020, Axalta Coating Systems Ltd. (the “Company”) issued a press release providing an update in response to coronavirus (COVID-19) impacts. The update also withdraws 2020 financial guidance in light of the uncertain demand environment. A copy of the Company’s press release is furnished hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

The information in this Item 7.01, including Exhibit 99.1 hereto, shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, and shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	<a href="#">Press Release dated March 24, 2020</a>
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

## 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.

AXALTA COATING SYSTEMS LTD.

Date: March 24, 2020

By: /s/ Sean M. Lannon

Sean M. Lannon

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

## News Release

**Axalta Coating Systems**  
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USA

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### For Immediate Release

## Axalta Provides Update in Response to Coronavirus Impact

- **Withdraws 2020 Financial Guidance in Light of Uncertain Demand Environment**
- **Maintains Strong Balance Sheet and Liquidity Profile**

PHILADELPHIA, PA, March 24, 2020 - Axalta Coating Systems Ltd. (NYSE: AXTA) (“Axalta” or the “Company”) today provided an update regarding the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on its business and actions the Company is taking to protect its communities, employees, customers, and shareholders.

Robert W. Bryant, Axalta’s President and CEO, commented, “First and foremost, we are focused on protecting public health and the health and safety of our employees and customers, consistent with guidance issued by relevant authorities. Where possible, our employees are working remotely, and we have instituted global travel restrictions for all employees. We are taking steps to promote social distancing and have instituted robust on-site hygiene practices and restrictions on visits to our facilities. We are continuing to monitor the situation closely and will take further action as appropriate.”

Additionally, given inherent uncertainty in the outlook for customer demand, Axalta is withdrawing previous financial guidance for 2020, which did not reflect the impact of the coronavirus. Management expects to provide updated guidance when it has more visibility into demand.

Management has taken swift action to both plan and address the near-term impact on the decline in demand in certain areas of Axalta’s business. The focus is on dynamically adjusting the Company’s cost structure as needed and has already included initial actions related to reducing discretionary spend across the organization.

Bryant added, “The fundamentals of our business remain strong. From a manufacturing standpoint, we continue to operate and meet customer demand around the world. We are also activating contingency plans designed to ensure our ability to continue to serve our customers in the event of possible operational limitations and also exploring ways to ‘flex’ as demand from customers changes. While near-term demand is uncertain and has caused us to withdraw our financial guidance for 2020, we are confident that we can continue serving our customers in a manner that is safe, compliant, and meets customer needs globally.”

Bryant concluded, “The coatings industry in general has a very high variable cost structure, and Axalta is no exception—our costs are approximately 64% variable at the cost of goods sold level. Through a combination of variable and directed fixed cost structure actions, coupled with a strong balance sheet, we believe we are well positioned to weather near-term reductions in customer demand and come out of this crisis an even stronger company.”

### Supply Chain Impact

Axalta is actively monitoring and managing supply chain challenges, including logistics, but thus far, there have been no significant disruptions. Axalta’s supply chain team is coordinating with the Company’s suppliers to identify and mitigate potential areas of risk and manage inventories.

### Financial Profile

Axalta continues to maintain a strong balance sheet. As of year end 2019, Axalta had \$1.02 billion in cash and cash equivalents and \$3.8 billion in total debt, giving effect to net debt of \$2.8 billion. This translated to total net leverage of 3.0x (net debt to 2019 full year Adjusted EBITDA). In January 2020, the Company voluntarily prepaid \$300 million of its Term Loan B debt using excess cash on the balance sheet. Axalta maintains an undrawn \$400 million revolver and the nearest debt maturities on both our Term Loans and Unsecured Notes are 2024. There are no affirmative financial covenants on the Company’s current outstanding debt. Any draw greater than 30% of the Company’s revolving credit commitments would be subject to a first lien net leverage covenant of 5.5:1.0 on secured debt.

Axalta's first lien net leverage ratio at December 31, 2019 was 1.47x. Given this balance sheet profile and liquidity, Axalta believes it is well positioned to operate in a challenging near-term demand environment.

Regarding cash flow, Axalta is assessing potential means to maximize free cash flow, including modifying previous plans for capital spending as well as reducing working capital intensity across the business. Axalta believes these actions can help to significantly offset operating profit reductions in the near term.

#### **About Axalta Coating Systems**

Axalta is a leading global company focused solely on coatings and providing customers with innovative, colorful, beautiful and sustainable solutions. From light OEM vehicles, commercial vehicles and refinish applications to electric motors, buildings and pipelines, our coatings are designed to prevent corrosion, increase productivity and enable the materials we coat to last longer. With more than 150 years of experience in the coatings industry, the 14,000 people of Axalta continue to find ways to better serve our more than 100,000 customers in over 130 countries better every day with the finest coatings, application systems and technology. For more information visit [axalta.com](http://axalta.com) and follow us on Twitter @axalta and on LinkedIn.

#### ***Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements***

This release may contain certain forward-looking statements regarding Axalta, including those relating to Axalta's supply chain, indebtedness, liquidity, cash flow, cost savings opportunities, customer demand, 2020 guidance and the effects of coronavirus (COVID-19) on Axalta's business. Forward-looking statements are based on management's expectations as well as estimates and assumptions prepared by management that, although they believe to be reasonable, are inherently uncertain. These statements may involve risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, our ability to maximize cash flow and generate cost savings and the effects of coronavirus on the geographies in which we operate and the end-markets that we serve. Axalta undertakes no obligation to update or revise any of the forward-looking statements contained herein, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.