

COVENANT TRANSPORT INC
Form 8-K
March 24, 2005

**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 23, 2005

COVENANT TRANSPORT, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	000-24960 (Commission File Number)	88-0320154 (IRS Employer Identification No.)
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400 Birmingham Hwy., Chattanooga, TN (Address of principal executive offices)	37419 (Zip Code)
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(423) 821-1212
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On Wednesday, March 23, 2005, Covenant Transport, Inc., a Nevada corporation (the "Company"), issued a press release and held a conference call announcing its expectations for financial and operating results for the first quarter. Copies of the press release and the conference call transcript are attached to this report as Exhibits 99.1 and 99.2, respectively.

The information contained in this report and the exhibits hereto shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing. The furnishing of the information contained in this report and the exhibits hereto is not intended to, and does not, constitute a representation that such furnishing is required by Regulation FD or that such information is material investor information that is not otherwise publicly available.

The information in this report and the exhibits hereto may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Such statements may be identified by their use of terms or phrases such as "expects," "estimates," "projects," "believes," "anticipates," "plans," "intends," and similar terms and phrases. Forward-looking statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of our management are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties, some of which cannot be predicted or quantified, which could cause future events and actual results to differ materially from those set forth in, contemplated by, or underlying the forward-looking statements. Actual results may differ from those set forth in the forward-looking statements. With respect to our expectations concerning freight rates and equipment utilization, the following factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from those in forward-looking statements: the risk that a seasonal upturn in freight volumes and pricing does not occur; the risk that we continue to be unable to obtain the level of rate increases we expect regardless of increased freight volumes; the risk that customer diversion of freight is not temporary; the risk that growth in our dedicated and refrigerated segments will not continue; and the risk that our perception of industry fundamentals is incorrect. With respect to our ability to improve margins and returns over time and our business in general, the following factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from those in forward-looking statements: excess tractor or trailer capacity in the trucking industry; decreased demand for our services or loss of one or more of our major customers; surplus inventories; recessionary economic cycles and downturns in customers' business cycles; strikes, work slow downs, or work stoppages at the Company, customers, ports, or other shipping related facilities; increases or rapid fluctuations in fuel prices as well as fluctuations in hedging activities and surcharge collection; the volume and terms of diesel purchase commitments; interest rates, fuel taxes, tolls, and license and registration fees; increases in the prices paid for new revenue equipment and changes in the resale value of our used equipment; increases in compensation for and difficulty in attracting and retaining qualified drivers and independent contractors; elevated experience in the frequency and severity of claims relating to accident, cargo, workers' compensation, health, and other claims; increased insurance premiums; fluctuations in claims expenses that result from high self-insured retention amounts and differences between estimates used in establishing and

adjusting claims reserves and actual results over time; adverse changes in claims experience and loss development factors; additional changes in management's estimates of liability based upon such experience and development factors; seasonal factors such as harsh weather conditions that increase operating costs; competition from trucking, rail, and intermodal competitors; regulatory requirements that increase costs or decrease efficiency, including revised hours-of-service requirements for drivers; the ability to successfully execute the Company's initiative of improving the profitability of single-driver freight movements; the ability to control increases in operating costs; and the ability to identify acceptable acquisition candidates, consummate acquisitions, and integrate acquired operations. Readers should review and consider these factors along with the various disclosures by the Company in its press releases, stockholder reports, and filings with the Securities Exchange Commission. We disclaim any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect actual results or changes in the factors affecting the forward-looking information.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

EXHIBIT NUMBER	EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION
99.1	Covenant Transport, Inc. press release announcing first quarter expectations and related conference call
99.2	Transcript of Covenant Transport, Inc. conference call discussing first quarter financial and operating expectations

SIGNATURE

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.

COVENANT TRANSPORT, INC.

Date: March 24, 2005

/s/ Joey B. Hogan

By:

Joey B. Hogan
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial
Officer

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