

**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: May 3, 2018
(Date of earliest event reported)

The Eastern Company

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Connecticut
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-35383
(Commission File Number)

06-0330020
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

112 Bridge Street, Naugatuck, Connecticut
(Address of principal executive offices)

06770
(Zip Code)

(203) 729-2255
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(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 (see General Instruction A.2)

- 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))

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 8.01 – Other Events

On May 3, 2018, The Eastern Company (the "Company") issued a press release announcing that its Board of Directors approved a new share repurchase program authorizing the Company to repurchase up to 200,000 shares of its common stock through May 2, 2023.

A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 9.01 – Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Title</u>
99.1	Press Release dated May 3, 2018 announcing a share repurchase program.

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.

The Eastern Company

Date: May 3, 2018

/s/John L. Sullivan III
John L. Sullivan III
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 3, 2018

**THE EASTERN COMPANY ANNOUNCES PROGRAM
TO REPURCHASE UP TO 200,000 SHARES BY MAY 2, 2023**

Naugatuck, CT—The Eastern Company (NASDAQ:EML) (the "Company") announced that its Board of Directors has approved a new share repurchase program authorizing the Company to repurchase up to 200,000 shares of its common stock through May 2, 2023. Under the share repurchase program, the Company may repurchase shares in the open market and may also enter into structured repurchase agreements with third parties.

Mr. James Mitarotonda, the Company's Chairman, explained that, "the share repurchase program is designed to return value to shareholders and minimize dilution from potential stock issuances related to long-term incentive management compensation."

Mr. August Vlak, the Company's President and CEO, added that, "our new share repurchase program emphasizes our commitment to returning value to our shareholders, as we execute on our long-term growth strategy."

About the Company

The Eastern Company is a 160 year-old manufacturer of industrial hardware, security products and metal castings. It operates from 16 locations in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Taiwan and China. The diversity of the Company's products helps it to respond to the changing requirements of a broad array of markets. More information on the Company can be found at www.easterncompany.com

Safe Harbor for Forward-Looking Statements

Statements in this document about our future expectations, beliefs, goals, plans or prospects constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and the rules, regulations and releases of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Any statements that are not statements of historical fact, including statements containing the words "believes," "intends," "continues," "reflects," "plans," "anticipates," "expects," and similar expressions, should also be considered to be forward-looking statements. Readers should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which are based upon management's current beliefs and expectations. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, and actual results might differ materially from those discussed in, or implied by, the forward-looking statements. Among the risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to changing customer preferences, lack of success of new products, loss of customers and increased prices for raw materials. There are important, additional factors that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from those indicated by such forward looking statements, including those set forth in our reports and filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We undertake no obligation to update, alter, or otherwise revise any forward-looking statements, whether written or oral, that may be made from time to time, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

The Eastern Company***August Vlak or John L. Sullivan III, 203-729-2255***