

VIAD CORP

FORM 8-K (Unscheduled Material Events)

Filed 5/19/1999 For Period Ending 5/18/1999

Address	1850 NORTH CENTRAL AVE SUITE 800 PHOENIX, Arizona 85004-4545
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CIK	0000884219
Industry	Business Services
Sector	Services
Fiscal Year	12/31

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**
Washington, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report: May 18, 1999

VIAD CORP

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE	001-11015	36-1169950
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	(Commission File Number)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1850 N. CENTRAL AVE., PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85077
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (602) 207-4000

Item 5. Other Events.

In a press release dated May 18, 1999, Viad Corp ("Viad"), announced the sale of its airline catering business, Dobbs International Services, Inc. The transaction is expected to close in the third quarter of 1999 and is subject to obtaining regulatory approval.

A copy of the press release issued by Viad is attached as Exhibit 99 to this report.

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

(99) Press Release

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

VIAD CORP

By: /s/ Jack A. Modzelewski

Jack A. Modzelewski
Chief Financial Officer

DATE: May 18, 1999

Exhibit 99

William H. Peltier
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VIAD CORP SELLS DOBBS INTERNATIONAL SERVICES, INC. TO SAIRGROUP

Owners of Swissair and Gate Gourmet In-flight Catering

PHOENIX, Ariz., May 18, 1999 - Robert H. Bohannon, chairman, president and chief executive officer, Viad Corp (NYSE:VVI), today announced the sale of Dobbs International Services, Inc., to SAirGroup, Zurich, Switzerland. The transaction is expected to close early third quarter, and is subject to obtaining regulatory approval.

"This is a major move for us and consistent with our long-term strategic plan," Bohannon said. "The sale of the airline catering business will allow us to reallocate our assets into high-growth companies with margins that meet our specific goals. Dobbs has been an outstanding performer in a very difficult market category through all the years we've owned them. However, the dynamics of the industry have necessitated a more global approach and the investment costs for Viad would have been prohibitive. We believe they now have the opportunity for even greater success under their new ownership." - more -

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Proceeds from the sale will be used to fund strategic acquisitions that will strengthen Viad's core businesses--money order and money wire payments services and exhibition/convention services--and to repurchase stock and pay down debt.

George Alvord, chief executive officer of Dobbs and a 30-year veteran in the foodservice industry, will remain with Dobbs in his present position.

In the last two years, Viad has been trimming its business portfolio with a series of divestitures of non-core assets. Included is the sale of Restaura foodservice operations, a duty-free business, Premier Cruise Lines, two U.K. vacation operations, an airline ground services company, an interest in the Phoenix Suns and the 24-story Viad Tower.

"By sharpening our focus, we can direct our energies more fully on growing our core businesses, as well as facilitate the understanding of our business in the investment community," Bohannon added. The company announced its second consecutive year of earnings per share growth of more than 20 percent. The company also recently announced a 33 percent increase in first-quarter earnings per share.

Viad was advised by Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette and Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Viad Corp is a \$2.5 billion S&P MidCap 400 company. Its major subsidiaries include Travelers Express Company of Minneapolis, GES Exposition Services of Las Vegas and Exhibitgroup/Giltspur of Chicago.

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End of Filing

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