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 (Date of earliest event reported): June 4, 2003

ODETICS, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware

001-08762

95-2588496

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

1515 South Manchester Avenue, Anaheim, California 92802 (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (714) 774-5000

Not Applicable

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed since Last Report)

Item 7. Exhibits

(a) Financial Statements of Business Acquired

Not Applicable.

(b) Pro Forma Financial Information

Not Applicable.

(c) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release dated June 4, 2003, of the Registrant.

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure

The information contained in this Item 9 of this Current Report is being furnished pursuant to "Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition" of Form 8-K in accordance with SEC Release Nos. 33-8216 and 34-47583.

The information in this Current Report is being furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section. The information in this Current Report shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

On June 4, 2003, Odetics, Inc. issued an earnings release announcing its financial results for the fourth quarter ended March 31, 2003. A copy of the earnings release is attached as Exhibit 99.1.

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SIGNATURE

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

ODETICS, INC., a Delaware corporation

June 6, 2003

By: /s/ GREGORY A. MINER

Gregory A. Miner Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibits	Description
99.1	Press Release dated June 4, 2003, of the Registrant.
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SIGNATURE EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit 99.1

For Information Contact:

Odetics: Gregory Miner Chief Executive Officer 714-774-5000

Home Page: http://www.odetics.com

For Release at 1:05 p.m., PDT 06/04/03

Odetics, Inc. Announces Results of Fourth Quarter Ended March 31, 2003 and Completion of Restructuring

Anaheim. California—June 4, 2003—For its fourth quarter ended March 31, 2003, Odetics, Inc. (NASDAQ: ODETA) today reported a loss from continuing operations of \$2,168,000, or \$0.14 per share, compared to income from continuing operations of \$36,000, or \$0.00 per share, reported for the fourth quarter of the previous fiscal year. The loss for the fourth quarters of fiscal 2003 and 2002 includes \$826,000 and \$1,485,000, respectively, in non-cash charges related to the minority interest in Odetics majority owned subsidiary, Iteris Inc. Odetics reported an operating loss from continued operations of \$1,066,000 in the fourth guarter ended March 31, 2003, compared to operating income of \$855,000 in the fourth quarter of the previous fiscal year.

For the quarter ended March 31, 2003, Odetics' net sales and contract revenues of \$12,062,000 increased 1.6% compared to net sales and contract revenues \$11,877,000 in the quarter ended March 31, 2002.

The results announced reflect the completion of a reorganization to focus Odetics in the areas of industrial and commercial security, and systems and sensors for the Intelligent Transportations Systems industry. Results from continuing operations for the fiscal periods ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 include only the business of Iteris and MAXxess.

During the fourth guarter we discontinued our Odetics Broadcast business, and do not plan to develop or sell new systems into this market. We plan to continue to provide service and support of existing Odetics Broadcast customers through the remainder of their service obligations. The impact of these changes was to reduce headcount for this business unit to a nominal support staff of service technicians located principally in Austin, Texas. We expect that these remaining Broadcast business operations will produce break-even operating results during the service period, which will be included within discontinued operations.

In March 2003, we announced that we would sell Odetics' wholly owned subsidiary, Zyfer, Inc. In May 2003, we completed the sale of Zyfer to Frequency Electronics, Inc. for a price of \$2.3 million cash payable at closing, plus future incentive cash payments of up to \$1,000,000 in each of the two years ended April 30, 2003 and 2004, based on the revenues generated by the sale of Zyfer products or the license of its technologies. Zyfer continues to be located at Odetics' primary facilities in Anaheim. California under a two-year sublease.

Commenting on the restructuring, Greg Miner, CEO, stated, "With these changes we have moved dramatically closer to having the Odetics business aligned with the ITS and Security markets—which we believe provide the best opportunity for sustained business growth. Furthermore, the changes to the economic model lower our break-even model by providing an opportunity for wider gross profit performance on an overall lower cost structure. We are continuing to engage in discussions to modify other significant contractual relationships which we believe, if successful, will further enhance the ability of Odetics to return to profitability and positive cash flow."

Fiscal 2003 was a stellar year for Iteris. We attained overall top line growth of 11.0% during Fiscal 2003 compared to Fiscal 2002, in line with our expectations, and the markets for Vantage Detection Systems and Traffic Systems and Services remained strong in an otherwise difficult business climate.

About Odetics

Odetics products address the management needs of the transportation, and security industries. Odetics is a market leader for video-based sensors used for surface transportation and is a developer of integrated systems for facility security and trace detection of dangerous chemicals and explosives. Odetics is headquartered in Anaheim, California. Investors are encouraged to contact us at 714.774.5000, or at www.odetics.com.

Important Notice

Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995:

This news release contains statements that may be deemed to be forward-looking. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date hereof and are based upon the information currently available to us at this time. Such information is subject to change, and we will not necessarily inform you of such changes. Actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements as a result of various factors including but not limited to the effectiveness of the Company's cost and expense reduction efforts; warranty and support issues; the rate at which present and future customers adopt the Company's technologies; emerging technologies and other competitive pressures; the cancellation or deferral of significant contracts; the impact of and accounting treatment for the sale of the assets of Zyfer; general economic and political conditions in Odetics markets including the continuing economic slowdown; and, such other factors identified in the Odetics' Annual Report on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q. Investors are strongly encouraged to review the risk factors set forth in Odetics' most recent SEC filings.

Odetics, Inc. Summary Financial Data (in thousands, except per share amounts)

		Three Mon Marc	ths E h 31,	nded		Twelve Mo Marc		inded	
Consolidated Statement of Operations		2002		2003		2002		2003	
Net sales and contract revenues:									
Net sales	\$	5,766	\$	5,779	\$	29,343	\$	22,541	
Contract revenues		6,111		6,283		22,846		25,086	
Total net sales and contract revenues		11,877		12,062		52,189		47,627	
Costs and expenses:									
Cost of sales		2,868		2,973		16,769		11,425	
Cost of contract revenues		2,333		4,115		13,132		16,034	
Gross profit		6,676		4,974		22,288		20,168	
Selling, general and administrative expense		4,184		4,789		18,491		16,157	
Research and development expense		870		1,251		4,385		4,215	
Restructuring charge		767		0		2,189		0	
Total operating expenses		5,821		6,040		25,065		20,372	
Operating income (loss)		855		(1,066)		(2,777)		(204)	
Non-operating items	_		_				_		
		414		(244)		2.010		141	
Other income (expense)				(211)		2,919			
Interest expense	_	(533)	_	(65)	_	(4,190)	_	(514)	
Income (loss) before income taxes		736		(1,342)		(4,048)		(577)	
Income tax benefit		(785)		0		(785)		0	
Income (loss) from continuing operations before minority interest		1,521		(1,342)		(3,263)		(577)	
Minority interest in earnings of subsidiary		1,485		826		1,910		3,818	
Income (loss) from continuing operations		36		(2,168)		(5,173)		(4,395)	
Long from disportinged energtions (including long on disposal of									
Loss from discontinued operations (including loss on disposal of \$8,361 in 2002 and \$4,909 in 2003, net of taxes of \$0)		(1,354)		(6,122)		(20,965)		(8,754)	
Extraordinary loss from early extinguishment of debt, net of tax of \$0		0		0,122)		(450)		0,104)	
Net loss	\$	(1,318)	\$	(8,290)	\$	(26,588)	\$	(13,149)	
Income (loss) per share: Basic and diluted									
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$	0.00	\$	(0.14)	\$	(0.46)	\$	(0.31)	
(Loss) from discontinued operations	Ψ.	(0.11)	T	(0.41)	Ψ.	(1.86)	•	(0.61)	
Extraordinary (loss) from the early extinguishment of debt		0.00		0.00		(0.04)		0.00	
(Loss) per share	\$	(0.11)	•	(0.55)	•	(2.36)	\$	(0.92)	
(LOSS) per strate	Ψ	(0.11)	Φ	(0.55)	Ψ —	(2.30)	φ —	(0.92)	
Shares used in calculating loss per share:									
Basic and diluted		12,254		15,117		11,267		14,276	
EBITDA									
Operating income (loss)		855		(1,066)		(2,777)		(204)	
Depreciation & amortization		303		215		3,087		817	
	\$	1,158	\$	(851)	\$	310	\$	613	

Odetics, Inc. **Summary Financial Data** (in thousands, except per share amounts)

		Three Months Ended March 31,				Twelve Months Ended March 31,				
		2002		2003		2002		2003		
Revenues by segment:										
Iteris	\$	10,162	\$	10,886	\$	37,309	\$	41,395		
Video Products		1,001		667		12,236		3,429		
Telecom Products		714		509		2,644		2,803		
	_		_		_					
	\$	11,877	\$	12,062	\$	52,189	\$	47,627		

Balance Sheet Highlights		3/31/02	03/31/03		
Current assets	\$	26,444	\$	20,475	
Property, plant & equipment, net	\$	15,997	\$	1,963	
Other assets	\$	9,797	\$	12,904	
Current liabilities	\$	34,048	\$	17,129	
Shareholders' equity	\$	5,255	\$	(4,288)	

QuickLinks

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