

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): February 9, 2000

VENATOR GROUP, INC.

 (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New York

 (State or other jurisdiction
 of incorporation)

No. 1-10299

 (Commission
 File Number)

13-3513936

 (IRS Employer
 Identification No.)

233 Broadway, New York, New York

 (Address of principal executive offices)

10279-0003

 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 553-2000

Item 5. Other Events.

On February 9, 2000, the Board of Directors of the Registrant elected Matthew D. Serra as Chief Operating Officer, effective immediately. Mr. Serra will be directly responsible for Foot Locker Worldwide and Champs Sports, which combined represents over 3,500 stores and over \$3.5 billion in annualized sales. (See Exhibit 99, which, in its entirety, is incorporated herein by reference.)

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits

In accordance with the provisions of Item 601 of Regulation S-K, an index of exhibits is included in this Form 8-K on page 3.

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 being hereunto duly authorized.

VENATOR GROUP, INC.

(Registrant)

Date: February 14, 2000

By: /s/ Gary M. Bahler

Gary M. Bahler
Senior Vice President,
General Counsel and Secretary

VENATOR GROUP, INC.

INDEX OF EXHIBITS
FURNISHED IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THE PROVISIONS OF
ITEM 601 OF REGULATION S-K

Exhibit No. in Item 601
of Regulation S-K

Description

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News Release dated February 10, 2000

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Juris Pagrabs
Vice President, Investor Relations
Venator Group, Inc.
(212) 553-7017

VENATOR GROUP NAMES MATTHEW D. SERRA
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

-RESPONSIBLE FOR FOOT LOCKER WORLDWIDE AND CHAMPS SPORTS -

NEW YORK, New York, February 10, 2000 - Venator Group, Inc. (NYSE:Z), the New York-based specialty store retailer, today announced that its Board of Directors has elected Matthew D. Serra as Chief Operating Officer, effective immediately. Mr. Serra will be directly responsible for Foot Locker Worldwide and Champs Sports, which combined represents over 3,500 stores and over \$3.5 billion in annualized sales. Mr. Serra, age 55, who has been President and Chief Executive Officer of Foot Locker Worldwide since 1998, will report to Dale W. Hilpert, Venator Group's President and Chief Executive Officer.

"Matt Serra has been instrumental in renewing our merchandising focus at Foot Locker stores worldwide, significantly contributing to our recent market share gains," stated Mr. Hilpert. "As we continue to move forward with our core athletic businesses, we look forward to benefiting greatly from Matt's extensive merchandising expertise and dynamic leadership."

Prior to joining Venator Group in 1998, Mr. Serra served as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Sterns, the \$900 million department store division of Federated Department Stores, Inc. since 1993. Mr. Serra began his career at Macy's New York in 1966. During his 33 year retail career, Mr. Serra has held various merchandising executive positions with a number of other retailers, including Bloomingdale's, Saks Fifth Avenue and Gimbels, a then division of Batus, Inc., where he served from 1983 to 1984, as President and Chief Operating Officer and from 1984 to 1986, as President and Chief Executive Officer. He also served as President and Chief Executive Officer of both Sibleys and G. Fox, department store divisions of May Co., between 1986 to 1990, and as President and Chief Executive Officer of Seamans, the New York-based specialty furniture store chain, from 1991 to 1992.

Venator Group is a diversified global retailer that operates over 4,000 retail stores in 15 countries in North America, Europe and Australia. Through its athletic group of specialty retail stores, including Foot Locker, Lady Foot Locker, Kids Foot Locker and Champs Sports, as well as its Internet/direct marketer eVenator/Eastbay, the Company is the leading provider of athletic footwear and apparel. Other specialty retail chains include the Northern Group of apparel stores.

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