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 (Date of earliest event reported): June 20, 2019

XCEL BRANDS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) 001-37527 (Commission File Number) 76-0307819 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

10018

(Zip Code)

1333 Broadway, New York, New York (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (347) 727-2474

Not Applicable (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. below):

- □ 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)
- Dere-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 1.01 Entry Into a Material Definitive Agreement

On June 20, 2019 and effective as of May 1, 2019, Xcel Brands, Inc., (the "Company") and Isaac Mizrahi ("Mizrahi") entered into the Second Amendment (the "Amendment") to the Employment Agreement dated as of December 24, 2013 (the "Agreement'). Pursuant to the Amendment, Mizrahi agreed to use his best efforts to schedule twenty (20) extra appearances on QVC for 2019 and the Company agreed to pay to Mizrahi Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) per extra appearance. In addition, the DRT Revenue Bonus (as defined in the Agreement) was amended for 2019 to provide that the 2019 DRT Revenue Bonus shall be equal to (i) 7.5% of the aggregate DRT Revenue to up to DRT Revenue based on annual gross sales plan given to the Company by QVC for 2019 (the "2019 Plan") plus (ii) 25% of DRT Revenue based on QVC sales in excess of the 2019 Plan.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

- (d) Exhibits.
- 99.1 Second Amendment to Employment Agreement by and between Xcel Brands, Inc. and Isaac Mizrahi made as of June 20, 2019 and effective as of May 1, 2019.

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.

XCEL BRANDS, INC. (Registrant)

By: /s/ James F. Haran

Name: James F. Haran Title: Chief Financial Officer

Date: June 25, 2019

SECOND AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

THIS SECOND AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT (this "Second Amendment") is made as of June 20, 2019 and effective as of May 1, 2019, by and among XCEL BRANDS, INC. (the "Company") and Isaac Mizrahi ("Executive") (Company and Executive hereinafter are referred to collectively as the "Parties" and each individually as a "Party", unless stated otherwise).

WHEREAS, the Executive serves as the Company's Chief Design Officer of the Isaac Mizrahi brand pursuant to an amended and restated employment agreement dated as of October 1, 2016, as previously amended (the "<u>Employment Agreement</u>"); and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to amend the terms of the Executive's employment with the Company;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements set forth herein, as defined below, it is agreed by and between the Executive and the Company as follows:

- 1. Notwithstanding anything in the Employment Agreement to the contrary, and in an effort for the Company to achieve gross retail sales on QVC in excess of the 2019 QVC plan previously communicated to Executive (the "2019 Plan"), during the Employment Period, Executive agrees to use best efforts to schedule a minimum of twenty (20) Extra Appearances on QVC for 2019. For the purposes hereof, "Extra Appearances" shall mean any period consisting of a day (defined as a period of a minimum of 4 hours (or as otherwise requested by QVC and approved by the Company) and up to 7 hours) that are outside of Executive's regularly scheduled appearances on QVC, which are requested by QVC and for which Executive either (i) has to travel to QVC specifically for such appearances, or (ii) has to appear for additional hours, all in excess of his originally scheduled shows. The Company and Executive shall agree upon on any such Extra Appearances in advance in writing, with such appearances clearly designated by the Parties hereto as Extra Appearances.
- 2. The Company shall pay Executive a fee equal to Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) for each such Extra Appearance (the "<u>Appearance Fees</u>"), for up to twenty (20) Extra Appearances in 2019. Appearance Fees for any Extra Appearances in excess of twenty (20) would be subject to the prior written approval of an Executive Officer of the Company. The Appearance Fees shall be payable to the Executive no later than the thirty (30) days following the date of such Extra Appearance. The Appearance Fees shall be credited as follows: (i) twenty percent (20%) of the Appearance Fees shall be credited against the 2019 DRT Revenue Bonus, and (ii) the remaining Appearance Fees shall be credited against any Tier 2 2019 DRT Revenue Bonus earned by Executive in 2019.
- 3. Section 1.3(b)(1) of the Employment Agreement entitled "DRT Revenue Bonus" shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

"For the calendar year ending December 31, 2019 during the Term, Executive shall be entitled to a bonus based on the Company's revenues from QVC ("2019 DRT Revenue Bonus") equal to (a) the product of (x) the Applicable Percentage multiplied by (y) 7.5% of the aggregate of Excess DRT Revenue up to Excess DRT Revenue based on the 2019 Plan, plus (b) 25% of the Excess DRT Revenue based on QVC sales in excess of the 2019 Plan (the amount, if any, under this clause (b), shall be referred to herein as the "Tier 2 2019 DRT Revenue Bonus").

For each subsequent calendar year during the Term (following calendar year ending December 31, 2019), if any, Executive shall be entitled to a bonus based on the Company's revenues from QVC ("<u>Subsequent Year DRT Revenue Bonus</u>" and together with the 2019 DRT Revenue Bonus, the "<u>DRT Revenue Bonus</u>") equal to (a) the product of (x) the Applicable Percentage multiplied by (y) 7.5% of the aggregate of Excess DRT Revenue up to the Excess DRT Revenue based on the annual gross sales plan given to the Company by QVC for such calendar year ("<u>QVC Sales Plan</u>"), plus (b) 15% of the Excess DRT Revenue based sales in excess of the QVC Sales Plan. The Company shall provide the QVC Sales Plan to the Executive promptly upon its receipt of the final QVC Sales Plan for each such subsequent calendar year."

- 4. This Second Amendment shall not constitute an amendment of any other provision of the Employment Agreement not expressly referred to herein. Except as expressly amended, the provisions of the Employment Agreement are and shall remain in full force and effect, and this Second Amendment shall be effective and binding upon the parties upon execution and delivery.
- 5. This Second Amendment may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original. Delivery of executed signature pages hereof by facsimile transmission shall constitute effective and binding execution and delivery hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Second Amendment as of the date first above written.

XCEL BRANDS, INC.

By: /s/ Robert D'Loren Name: Robert D'Loren Title: *Chairman and CEO*

ISAAC MIZRAHI

By: /s/ Isaac Mizrahi Name: Isaac Mizrahi Title: *Its*.