

Edgar Filing: FENIMORE ASSET MANAGEMENT INC - Form SC 13G

FENIMORE ASSET MANAGEMENT INC  
Form SC 13G  
February 14, 2003

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549  
SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
(Amendment No. \_)

TENNANT, COMPANY

-----  
(Name of Issuer)

COMMON STOCK

-----  
(Title of Class of Securities)

880345103

-----  
(CUSIP Number)

DECEMBER 31, 2002

-----  
(Date of Event which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)  
 Rule 13d-1(c)  
 Rule 13d-1(d)

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

Page 1 of 8 Pages

CUSIP NO. 880345103

PAGE 2 OF 8 PAGES

SCHEDULE 13G

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1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
SS. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON  
  
Fenimore Asset Management, Inc.  
14-1564237

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (A)   
SEC USE ONLY (B)

3

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
  
New York State

5 SOLE VOTING POWER  
  
NUMBER OF SHARES 587,215  
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY  
EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH

6 SHARED VOTING POWER  
  
0

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
  
587,215

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
  
0

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  
587,215

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN  
SHARES

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)  
6.53%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON  
IA

CUSIP NO. 880345103

PAGE 3 OF 8 PAGES

SCHEDULE 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
SS. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

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Thomas O. Putnam  
N/A

2

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (A)   
(B)

3

SEC USE ONLY

4

CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

United States

NUMBER OF  
SHARES  
BENEFICIALLY  
OWNED BY  
EACH  
REPORTING  
PERSON  
WITH

5

SOLE VOTING POWER

0

6

SHARED VOTING POWER  
587,215

7

SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
0

8

SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
587,215

9

AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  
587,215

10

CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN  
SHARES

11

PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)  
6.53%

12

TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON  
IN

CUSIP NO. 880345103

PAGE 4 OF 8 PAGES

SCHEDULE 13G

Item 1. (a). Name of Issuer: Tennant Company

(b). Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

701 North Lilac Drive

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Minneapolis, MN 55440

- Item 2. (a). Name of Persons Filing:
- (i) Fenimore Asset Management, Inc. ("Fenimore")
  - (ii) Thomas O. Putman ("Putnam")
- (b). Address of Principal Business Office for Each of the Above:
- 384 N. Grand Street, Box 310  
Cobleskill, NY 12043
- (c). Citizenship or Place of Organization:
- (i) Fenimore: New York State
  - (ii) Putnam: United States
- (d). Title of Class of Securities: Common Stock
- (e). CUSIP Number: 880345103

- Item 3. If this Statement is Filed Pursuant to Rules 13d-1(b) or 13d-2(b) or (c), Check Whether the Person Filing is a:
- (a)  Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Exchange Act;
  - (b)  Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Exchange Act;
  - (c)  Insurance company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Exchange Act;
  - (d)  Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act;
  - (e)  An investment adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
  - (f)  An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
  - (g)  A parent holding company or control person in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);

CUSIP NO. 880345103

PAGE 5 OF 8 PAGES

SCHEDULE 13G

- (h)  A savings associations as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act;
- (i)  A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940;
- (j)  Group, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

Item 4. Ownership.

- (a). Amount beneficially owned:
- (i) Fenimore: 587,215

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- (ii) Putnam: 587,215
- (b). Percent of class:
  - (i) Fenimore: 6.53%
  - (ii) Putnam: 6.53%
- (c). Number of shares as to which such person has:
  - (1) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote:
    - (i) Fenimore: 587,215
    - (ii) Putnam: 0
  - (2) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote:
    - (i) Fenimore: 0
    - (ii) Putnam: 587,215
  - (3) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of :
    - (i) Fenimore: 587,215
    - (ii) Putnam: 0
  - (4) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:
    - (i) Fenimore: 0
    - (ii) Putnam: 587,215

CUSIP NO. 880345103

PAGE 6 OF 8 PAGES

SCHEDULE 13G

- Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:  
Not Applicable
- Item 6. Ownership of More Than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person:  
Not Applicable.
- Item 7. Identification and Classification of Subsidiaries which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company:  
Not Applicable
- Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group:  
Not Applicable
- Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group:  
Not Applicable

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Item 10. Certification:

By signing below, I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

In accordance with Rule 13d-4 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, each of the persons filing this statement expressly disclaim the beneficial ownership of the securities covered by this statement and the filing of this report shall not be construed as an admission by such persons that they are the beneficial owners of such securities.

CUSIP NO. 880345103

PAGE 7 OF 8 PAGES

SCHEDULE 13G

SIGNATURES

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

FENIMORE ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC.

Date: February 14, 2003

By: /S/ JOSEPH A. BUCCI

-----  
Joseph A. Bucci  
Secretary and Compliance Officer

THOMAS O. PUTNAM

Date: February 14, 2003

By: /S/ THOMAS O. PUTNAM

-----  
Thomas O. Putman

-----  
CUSIP NO. 880345103

PAGE 8 OF 8 PAGES

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SCHEDULE 13G  
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EXHIBIT 1

JOINT FILING AGREEMENT AMONG FENIMORE ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC.  
AND THOMAS O. PUTNAM

WHEREAS, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(k) under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), only one joint statement and any amendments thereto need to be filed whenever one or more persons are required to file such a statement or any amendments thereto pursuant to Section 13(d) of the Act with respect to the same securities, provided that said persons agree in writing that such statement or amendments thereto is filed on behalf of each of them;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto agree as follows:

FENIMORE ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC. AND THOMAS O. PUTNAM hereby agree, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(k) under the Act, to file a statement on Schedule 13G relating to their ownership of Common Stock of the Issuer and do hereby further agree that said statement shall be filed on behalf of each of them.

FENIMORE ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC.

Date: February 14, 2003

By: /S/ JOSEPH A. BUCCI

-----  
Joseph A. Bucci  
Secretary and Compliance Officer

THOMAS O. PUTNAM

Date: February 14, 2003

By: /S/ THOMAS O. PUTNAM

-----  
Thomas O. Putnam