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SPIRENT PLC  
Form 6-K  
January 27, 2004

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER  
PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16  
UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the month of January 2004  
SPIRENT plc

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(Translation of registrant's name into English)

Spirent House, Crawley Business Quarter, Fleming Way, Crawley, West Sussex  
RH10 9QL, UK.

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(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports  
under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F      X                      Form 40-F.....

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information  
contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the  
Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes .....                      No      X

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant  
in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82- \_\_\_\_\_

827 - 27 January 2004

SPIRENT PLC

FREDERICK D'ALESSIO APPOINTED NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Spirent plc (LSE: SPT; NYSE: SPM), a leading international network technology  
company, announces that Frederick 'Fred' D'Alessio has been appointed as a  
non-executive director with effect from 26 January 2004.

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Mr D'Alessio (55) has over 30 years' experience in the telecoms industry, most recently holding the position of President of Advanced Services at Verizon Communications Inc., the largest network service provider in the United States. Since 2002 he has been a general partner and founder of Capitol Management Partners, a consultancy for early stage communications companies, and currently sits on the boards of three emerging US telecoms companies SS8 Networks, Inc., Aware, Inc. and Hatteras Networks, Inc.

Commenting, John Weston, Chairman of Spirent, said:

"Fred has had an extensive career in the telecoms sector and his insight and experience will be of great value to the Group as we continue to focus on the development of our communications activities."

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### Enquiries

Nicholas Brookes, Chief Executive Eric Hutchinson, Finance Director	Spirent plc	+44 (0)1293 767676
Investor Relations Catherine Nash	Spirent plc	+44 (0)1293 767676
Media Jon Coles/Rupert Young	Brunswick	+44 (0)20 7404 5959

### About Spirent

Spirent plc is an international network technology company providing state-of-the-art systems and solutions for a broad range of customers. Our Communications group is a worldwide provider of integrated performance analysis and service assurance systems for next-generation network technologies. Spirent's solutions enable customers to develop, deploy and assure network equipment and services more economically and efficiently by emulating real-world conditions and assuring end-to-end performance of large-scale networks. Our Network Products group provides innovative solutions for fastening, identifying, insulating, organising, routing and connectivity that add value to electrical and communication networks in a wide range of applications. Our Systems group offers integrated solutions for the power controls and aerospace markets. Further information about Spirent plc can be found at [www.spirent.com](http://www.spirent.com)

Spirent plc is listed on the London Stock Exchange (ticker: SPT) and on the New York Stock Exchange (ticker: SPM; CUSIP number: 84856M209) with one American Depositary Receipt representing four Ordinary shares.

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This press release may contain forward-looking statements that are based on current expectations or beliefs, as well as assumptions about future events. By their nature, forward-looking statements are inherently predictive, speculative and involve risk and uncertainty because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that will occur in the future. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which are not a guarantee of future performance and are subject to factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these statements. These risks include the risks described from time to time in Spirent plc's Securities and Exchange Commission periodic reports and filings. The Company undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this press release, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

### 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, thereunto duly authorized.

\_\_\_\_LUKE THOMAS\_\_\_\_

(Registrant)

Date January 27, 2004

By \_\_\_\_/s/ Luke Thomas\_\_\_\_

(Signature)\*