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HELMERICH & PAYNE INC Form 8-K March 06, 2008

# UNITED STATES 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 EARLIEST EVENT REPORTED: March 6, 2008

## HELMERICH & PAYNE, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

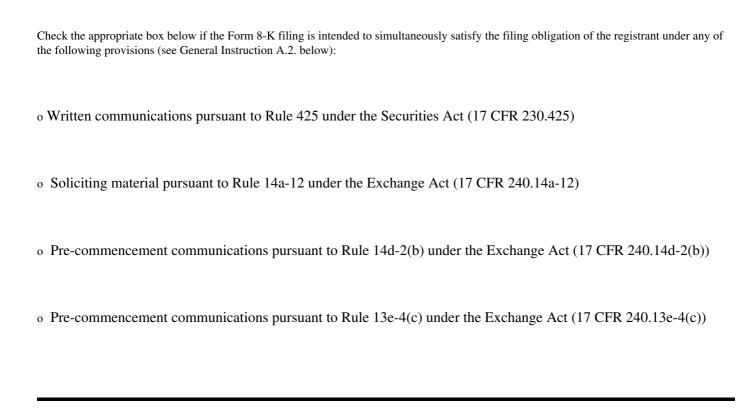
State of Incorporation: Delaware

**COMMISSION FILE NUMBER 1-4221** 

Internal Revenue Service Employer Identification No. 73-0679879

1437 South Boulder Avenue, Suite 1400, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74119

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#### Item 8.01 Other Events.

On March 6, 2008, the Company issued a press release announcing that the Company has signed long-term contracts corresponding to previously announced letters of intent to operate seven new FlexRigs<sup>®</sup>. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

- (d) Exhibits.
- Exhibit Number Description

99.1 Helmerich & Payne, Inc. press release dated March 6, 2008.

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly authorized the undersigned to sign this report on its behalf.

HELMERICH & PAYNE, INC. (Registrant)

/s/ Steven R. Mackey Steven R. Mackey Vice President

DATE: March 6, 2008

#### **EXHIBIT INDEX**

#### **Exhibit Number Description**

99.1 Helmerich & Payne, Inc. press release dated March 6, 2008.