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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)

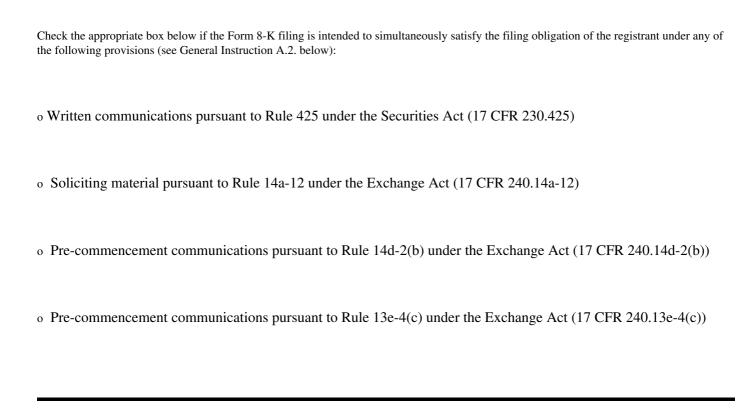
State of Incorporation: Delaware

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[®]. 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.