

ROWAN COMPANIES PLC  
Form 8-K  
May 16, 2012

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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 REPORT (Date of earliest event reported): May 16, 2012

ROWAN COMPANIES plc  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Commission File Number: 1-5491

England and Wales  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

98-1023315  
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

2800 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 5450  
Houston, Texas 77056-6189  
(Address of principal executive offices and Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (713) 621-7800

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:

- 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)
- Pre-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))

Item 8.01 Other Information

Rowan Companies plc (the “Company”) is filing this Current Report on Form 8-K in connection with the filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) of a shelf registration statement relating to securities that may be offered from time to time by the Company or Rowan Companies, Inc. (“Rowan Delaware”), for the purpose of adding Note 16 to Rowan Delaware’s audited consolidated financial statements included in Part II, Item 8 of Rowan Delaware’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 filed with the SEC on February 28, 2012, as amended, (the “2011 Annual Report”).

The Company is providing the additional note to the financial statements to provide condensed consolidating financial information in accordance with Rule 3-10 of Regulation S-X because the debt securities offered by the Company or Rowan Delaware may be fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the Company or certain of its wholly owned subsidiaries, including Rowan Delaware. To reflect the addition of Note 16 to the financial statements, Part II, Item 8 of the 2011 Annual Report is being amended in its entirety and is attached as Exhibit 99 hereto and incorporated by reference.

Because this Current Report is being filed only for the purpose described above and only affects the Item specified above, the other information contained in the 2011 Annual Report remains unchanged. No attempt has been made in this Current Report nor in Exhibit 99 to modify or update disclosures in the 2011 Annual Report, except with respect to the addition of Note 16 described above.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

| Exhibit Number | Description  |
|----------------|--|
| 23             | Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.  |
| 99             | Update to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 of Rowan Companies, Inc, as amended. |
| 101.INSXBRL    | Instance Document.   |
| 101.SCHXBRL    | Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.  |
| 101.CALXBRL    | Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document.  |
| 101.DEF XBRL   | Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document.   |
| 101.LABXBRL    | Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document.  |
| 101.PREXBRL    | Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document.   |

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.

Rowan Companies plc

By:   /s/ William H. Wells                    

William H. Wells

Senior Vice President – CFO and Treasurer

(Principal Financial Officer)

Dated: May 16, 2012

Index to Exhibits

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