

BOWNE & CO INC
Form 8-K
December 19, 2008

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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): December 16, 2008**

Bowne & Co., Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Delaware | 1-05842 | 13-2618477 |
| (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) | (Commission File Number) | (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.) |

| | |
|--|------------|
| 55 Water Street, New York, New York | 10041 |
| (Address of principal executive offices) | (Zip Code) |

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 212-924-5500

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))
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Item 8.01 Other Events.

On December 16, 2008, Standard & Poor's Ratings Services (Standard & Poor's) lowered its corporate credit rating on Bowne & Co., Inc. (the Company) to B from BB- , and also lowered its issue-level rating on the Company's convertible subordinated debentures to CCC+ from B . These ratings remain on Credit Watch, where they were placed with negative implications on November 12, 2008.

A copy of the press release released by Standard & Poor's is being furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

Exhibits

99.1 Standard & Poor's press release dated December 16, 2008

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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.

Bowne & Co., Inc.

December 19, 2008

By: /s/ John J. Walker

Name: John J. Walker

Title: Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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Exhibit

| Number | Description |
|---------------|--|
| 99.1 | Standard & Poor's press release dated December 16, 2008. |