

HELMERICH & PAYNE INC

Form 8-K

March 13, 2006

**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 13, 2006
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
(918)742-5531**

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 (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- 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 EVENTS

On March 13, 2006, Helmerich & Payne, Inc. (Registrant) issued a press release announcing the Registrant s plan to operate five new drilling rigs for customers of Registrant. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99 to this Report on Form 8-K.

ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(d) Exhibits

| <u>Exhibit No.</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|
|--------------------|--------------------|

| | |
|----|--|
| 99 | Helmerich & Payne, Inc. press release dated March 13, 2006 |
|----|--|

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 13, 2006

EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|-------------|--|
| 99 | Helmerich & Payne, Inc. press release dated March 13, 2006 |