

TESLA MOTORS INC  
Form 8-K  
December 18, 2012

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, DC 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 12, 2012

**Tesla Motors, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

(Commission

(IRS Employer

File Number)  
3500 Deer Creek Road

Identification No.)

Palo Alto, California 94304

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(650) 681-5000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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 (see General Instruction A.2):

- .. 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 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

On December 12, 2012, Dr. Herbert Kohler, a director of Tesla Motors, Inc. (the Company ), submitted his resignation from the Company's Board of Directors, effective December 12, 2012. Dr. Kohler's resignation (and the appointment of Harald Kroeger described below) is a result of a natural transition of responsibilities at Daimler AG with respect to the development of electric vehicle powertrains. Dr. Kohler has served as a director of the Company since 2009.

On December 12, 2012, the Board appointed Mr. Harald Kroeger, Vice President of Electrics/Electronics & e-Drive for Daimler AG, as a director to fill the newly created vacancy resulting from the resignation of Dr. Herbert Kohler. Mr. Kroeger is eligible to receive the standard director compensation package, as approved by the Board of Directors on an annual basis and disclosed in the Company's proxy statement. There are no family relationships between Mr. Kroeger and any director or executive officer of the Company. Information regarding related party transactions involving Mr. Kroeger, through his relationship to Daimler AG, is set forth in our proxy statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 13, 2012 under the caption "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions" Related Party Transactions.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits.

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
99.1	Letter of Resignation from Dr. Herbert Kohler.

**SIGNATURE**

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.

**TESLA MOTORS, INC.**

By: /s/ Deepak Ahuja

**Deepak Ahuja**

**Chief Financial Officer**

Date: December 18, 2012

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

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