Butz Stephen M Form 4 December 20, 2018

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

Section 16.

Form 4 or

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Butz Stephen M Issuer Symbol ROWAN COMPANIES PLC [RDC] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify 2800 POST OAK BLVD., SUITE 12/18/2018 below) below) 5450 EVP & CFO 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Form filed by More than One Reporting HOUSTON, TX 77056 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. Transaction 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Code (A) or Disposed of (D) Securities Ownership Indirect (Instr. 3) any (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Beneficially Form: Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) Ownership Owned Direct (D) Following or Indirect (Instr. 4) Reported (I) (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) (Instr. 3 and 4) Code Amount (D) Price Class A \$ 98,493 F(1)(2)(3)D D **Ordinary** 12/18/2018 8.965 193,068 (5) (1)(2)(4) Shares

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Titl	e and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	TransactionNumber		Expiration D	ate	Amou	nt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securi	ties	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Owne
	Security	Acquired									Follo
	•				(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									Amount		
							Expiration Date		or		
								(Number		
				~	<i>(</i> 1) (5)				of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Butz Stephen M 2800 POST OAK BLVD. SUITE 5450 HOUSTON, TX 77056

EVP & CFO

Signatures

/s/ Ryan Tarkington, Attorney-in-Fact

12/20/2018

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

adverse tax consequences to the Issuer and to certain of the executive officers of the Company, including Mr. Butz (collectively, the

"Impacted Officers"), under Sections 280G and 4999 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, as amended, resulting from the treatment of
potential payments that may be made pursuant to the Change in Control Agreement between the Issuer and each of the Impacted Officers
in connection with the merger contemplated by the Transaction Agreement, dated as of October 7, 2018, between the Issuer and Ensco
plc.

On December 18, 2018, the compensation committee (the "Committee") of the board of directors of the Issuer considered the potential

- In order to mitigate the potential adverse tax consequences, the Committee has converted all outstanding restricted share units previously awarded to Mr. Butz under the Issuer's Amended and Restated 2013 Rowan Companies plc Incentive Plan (each, a "RSU Award") to restricted shares (the "Restricted Shares"). Each such Restricted Share will vest in accordance, and subject to, the terms and conditions of the underlying RSU Award from which it was converted.
- In order to satisfy certain tax liabilities of Mr. Butz in connection with his election under Section 83(b) of the Code with respect to the acquisition of the Restricted Shares, the Committee accelerated the vesting of and withheld Restricted Shares with a fair market value equal to the employment and income tax liability imposed on such Restricted Shares.
- (4) Sales price is the fair market value on December 18, 2018.
- (5) Includes 123,825 Restricted Shares held by the reporting person.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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