

ROWAN COMPANIES PLC  
Form 8-K  
July 31, 2012

**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): July 25, 2012

Rowan Companies plc

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

England and Wales  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

1-5491  
(Commission  
File Number)

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: **+1 713 621 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 Events.**

On July 25, 2012, the Board of Directors of Rowan Companies plc (the “Company”) appointed Kevin Bartol as Executive Vice President, Finance and Corporate Development, effective immediately. For additional details, please see the press release attached as Exhibit 99.1, which is incorporated herein by reference. In addition, Mr. Bartol’s annual base salary was increased from \$375,000 to \$400,000. Mr. Bartol’s short term and long term incentive targets remain the same.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(c) Exhibits

| Exhibit<br>Number | Exhibit Description               |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 99.1              | Press release dated July 31, 2012 |

**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.

Dated: July 31, 2012

ROWAN COMPANIES PLC

By: /s/ Melanie M. Trent  
Melanie M. Trent  
Senior Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer and Company  
Secretary