

HERCULES OFFSHORE, INC.  
Form 8-K  
May 17, 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): May 17, 2012**

**HERCULES OFFSHORE, INC.**

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

**Delaware**  
**(State or other jurisdiction**  
  
**of incorporation)**

**0-51582**  
**(Commission File Number)**

**56-2542838**  
**(I.R.S. Employer**  
  
**Identification No.)**

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**9 Greenway Plaza, Suite 2200**

**Houston, Texas**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**77046**  
(Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (713) 350-5100**

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 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure**

*Fleet Status*

On May 17, 2012, Hercules Offshore, Inc. (the Company) is posting on its website at [www.herculesoffshore.com](http://www.herculesoffshore.com) a report entitled Hercules Offshore Fleet Status Report (the Fleet Status Report). The Fleet Status Report includes the Hercules Offshore Rig Fleet Status (as of May 17, 2012), which contains information for each of the Company's drilling rigs, including contract dayrate and duration. The Fleet Status Report also includes the Hercules Offshore Liftboat Fleet Status Report, which contains information by liftboat class for April 2012, including revenue per day and operating days. The Fleet Status Report is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

*Update to Hercules 185*

During the oceanic voyage from the U.S. Gulf of Mexico to Angola aboard a dry-tow vessel, the *Hercules 185* experienced damage to its legs. The Company is currently evaluating the extent of the damage and determining the appropriate course of action. Until the Company's evaluation is complete, it is not possible to determine the extent of the damage to the rig, the costs required to repair the rig, the amount of time the rig will be out of service or the appropriate course of action.

The information furnished pursuant to Item 7.01, including Exhibit 99.1, shall not be deemed to be filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and will not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement filed by the Company under the Securities Act of 1933 unless specifically identified therein as being incorporated therein by reference.

The information and statements made in the Fleet Status Report that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These forward-looking statements include statements concerning estimated contract expiration dates, dayrates, estimated dates for completion of repairs and upgrades and commencement dates of new contracts, as well as information that may be affected by the continued delays in obtaining drilling permits in the Gulf of Mexico. Such statements are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including without limitation, early termination by the customer pursuant to the contract or otherwise, cancellation or completion of certain contracts earlier than expected, our ability to renew or extend our long-term international contracts, or enter into new contracts, when such contracts expire, the potential inability of our customers to obtain drilling permits that would cover the entire duration of our contracts in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico or otherwise satisfy regulatory requirements that may be then in effect, operational difficulties, shipyard and other delays, government and regulatory actions and other factors described in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K and its most recent periodic reports and other documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which are available free of charge at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) or the company's website at [www.herculesoffshore.com](http://www.herculesoffshore.com). The Company cautions you that forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and that actual results or developments may differ materially from those projected or implied in these statements.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit 99.1 Hercules Offshore Fleet Status Report

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.

HERCULES OFFSHORE, INC.

Date: May 17, 2012

By: /s/ James W. Noe  
James W. Noe  
Senior Vice President, General Counsel and  
Chief Compliance Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

| <b>Exhibit No.</b> | <b>Description</b>                    |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 99.1               | Hercules Offshore Fleet Status Report |