

BOWNE & CO INC  
Form NT 11-K  
March 31, 2006

OMB APPROVAL  
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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549  
FORM 12b-25  
NOTIFICATION OF LATE FILING**

(Check one):  Form 10-K  Form 20-F  Form 11-K  Form 10-Q  Form 10-D  Form N-SAR  Form N-CSR

For Period Ended: December 31, 2005

Transition Report on  
Form 10-K

Transition Report on  
Form 20-F

Transition Report on  
Form 11-K

Transition Report on  
Form 10-Q

Transition Report on  
Form N-SAR

For the Transition Period  
Ended:

*Read Instruction (on back page) Before Preparing Form. Please Print or Type.*

**Nothing in this form shall be construed to imply that the Commission has verified any information contained herein.**

If the notification relates to a portion of the filing checked above, identify the Item(s) to which the notification relates:

**PART I REGISTRANT INFORMATION**

Bowne & Co., Inc. Global Employee Stock Purchase Plan

Full Name of Registrant

N/A

Former Name if Applicable

55 Water Street

Address of Principal Executive Office (*Street and Number*)

New York, New York 10041

City, State and Zip Code

**PART II RULES 12b-25(b) AND (c)**

If the subject report could not be filed without unreasonable effort or expense and the registrant seeks relief pursuant to Rule 12b-25(b), the following should be completed. (Check box if appropriate)

(a) The reason described in reasonable detail in Part III of this form could not be eliminated without unreasonable effort or expense

x (b) The subject annual report, semi-annual report, transition report on Form 10-K, Form 20-F, Form 11-K, Form N-SAR or Form N-CSR, or portion thereof, will be filed on or before the fifteenth calendar day following the prescribed due date; or the subject quarterly report or transition report on Form 10-Q or subject distribution report on Form 10-D, or portion thereof, will be filed on or before the fifth calendar day following the prescribed due date; and

(c) The accountant's statement or other exhibit required by Rule 12b-25(c) has been attached if applicable.

**PART III NARRATIVE**

State below in reasonable detail why Forms 10-K, 20-F, 11-K, 10-Q, 10-D, N-SAR, N-CSR, or the transition report or portion thereof, could not be filed within the prescribed time period.

Bowne & Co., Inc. Global Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the Plan) will be unable to complete its financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2005 until Bowne & Co., Inc. (the Company), the issuer of the securities held pursuant to the Plan, completes its consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2005 and prior. Accordingly, the Plan was not able to file its Form 11-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005 by March 31, 2006. The Company has experienced delays in completing its consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2005 and prior, because of certain adjustments of current and deferred income tax liabilities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005 as more fully described in the Company's Report on Form 12b-25 filed with the Commission on March 16, 2006 and discussed in the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 16, 2006.

SEC 1344 (03-05) **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  
control  
number.**

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(Attach extra Sheets if Needed)

**PART IV OTHER INFORMATION**

- (1) Name and telephone number of person to contact in regard to this notification

Scott L. Spitzer

212

658-5805

(Name)

(Area Code)

(Telephone Number)

- (2) Have all other periodic reports required under Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 during the preceding 12 months or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such report(s) been filed ? If answer is no, identify report(s).

Yes  No

- (3) Is it anticipated that any significant change in results of operations from the corresponding period for the last fiscal year will be reflected by the earnings statements to be included in the subject report or portion thereof?

Yes  No

If so, attach an explanation of the anticipated change, both narratively and quantitatively, and, if appropriate, state the reasons why a reasonable estimate of the results cannot be made.

Bowne & Co., Inc. Global Employee Stock Purchase Plan

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

has caused this notification to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date March 31, 2006

By /s/ C. Cody Colquitt

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial  
Officer