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

FORM 10-Q

R QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

OR

£ TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM_____TO____

1-5491 Commission File Number

Rowan Companies plc (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

England and Wales (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 98-1023315 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

2800 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 5450, Houston, Texas (Address of principal executive offices) 77056-6189

(Zip Code)

(713) 621-7800

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Rowan Companies, Inc. (Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes R No £

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such

files). Yes $R \ \mbox{No}\ \mbox{E}$

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. Large accelerated filer R Accelerated filer £ Non-accelerated filer £ Smaller reporting company £

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes f No R

The number of Class A ordinary shares, \$0.125 par value, outstanding at October 31, 2012, was 124,194,069.

ROWAN COMPANIES PLC

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
<u>PART I</u>	FINANCIAL INFORMATION	U
<u>Item 1.</u>	Financial Statements (Unaudited):	
	Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets – September 30, 2012, and December 31, 2011	1
	Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income – Three and nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011	3
	Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income – Three and nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011	4
	Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows – Nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011	5
	Condensed Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity – Nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011	6
	Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements	7
<u>Item 2.</u>	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	26
<u>Item 3.</u>	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	34
<u>Item 4.</u>	Controls and Procedures	35
<u>PART II</u>	OTHER INFORMATION	
<u>Item 1.</u>	Legal Proceedings	35
<u>Item 1A.</u>	Risk Factors	36
<u>Item 2.</u>	Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds	36
<u>Item 5.</u>	Other Information	36
<u>Item 6.</u>	Exhibits	51
	SIGNATURES	52

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

ROWAN COMPANIES PLC AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (In thousands, except shares) (Unaudited)

ASSETS	September 30, 2012	December 31, 2011
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$328,290	\$438,853
Receivables - trade and other	403,465	283,592
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	64,895	44,586
Deferred tax assets - net	42,899	27,023
Assets of discontinued operations	26,948	27,661
Total current assets	866,497	821,715
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT - at cost:		
Drilling equipment	6,671,638	6,179,587
Construction in progress	738,439	711,558
Other property and equipment	136,955	138,177
Property, plant and equipment - gross	7,547,032	7,029,322
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	1,525,083	1,350,609
Property, plant and equipment - net	6,021,949	5,678,713
Other assets	100,400	97,417
TOTAL ASSETS	\$6,988,846	\$6,597,845

ROWAN COMPANIES PLC AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (continued) (In thousands, except shares) (Unaudited)

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY CURRENT LIABILITIES:	September 30, 2012	December 31, 2011
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$ -	\$45,023
Accounts payable - trade	90,101	111,082
Deferred revenues	35,975	36,220
Accrued pension and other postretirement benefits	14,515	55,244
Accrued compensation and related employee costs	41,520	31,205
Accrued income taxes	7,619	9,878
Accrued interest	17,682	25,477
Other current liabilities	21,036	9,237
Liabilities of discontinued operations	21,255	25,005
Total current liabilities	249,703	348,371
	,	0.10,071
Long-term debt - less current maturities	1,393,151	1,089,335
Other liabilities	380,430	357,709
Deferred income taxes - net	487,251	476,443
Commitments and contingent liabilities (Note 6)	-	-
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY: Class A Ordinary Shares, \$0.125 par value, 124,734,407 shares issued at September 30,		
2012	15,592	-
Common stock, \$0.125 par value, 150,000,000 shares authorized and		
127,577,530 shares issued at December 31, 2011	-	15,947
Additional paid-in capital	1,367,208	1,478,233
Retained earnings	3,312,893	3,186,362
Cost of 548,264 and 3,996,465 treasury shares, respectively	(1,914)	(128,884)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(215,468)	(225,671)
Total shareholders' equity	4,478,311	4,325,987
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$6,988,846	\$6,597,845

ROWAN COMPANIES PLC AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (In thousands, except per share amounts) (Unaudited)

		onths ended ember 30, 2011	Nine months ended September 30, 2012 2011		
REVENUES	\$353,910	\$234,698	\$1,038,405	\$664,161	
COSTS AND EXPENSES:					
Direct operating costs (excluding items below)	188,152	129,767	558,405	345,558	
Depreciation and amortization	63,027	50,306	183,323	129,267	
Selling, general and administrative	25,780	22,629	73,934	65,172	
(Gain) loss on disposals of property and equipment	(559) 14	(2,678) (1,408)	
Material charges and other operating expenses	18,174	20	30,871	6,120	
Total costs and expenses	294,574	202,736	843,855	544,709	
I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	- ,	- ,)		
INCOME FROM OPERATIONS	59,336	31,962	194,550	119,452	
OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE):					
Interest expense, net of interest capitalized	(13,690) (4,233) (37,940) (17,001)	
Loss on extinguishment of debt	(10,456) -	(22,223) -	
Interest income	263	277	523	338	
Other - net	(505) (458) 710	(1,177)	
Total other income (expense) - net	(24,388) (4,414) (58,930) (17,840)	
INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS					
BEFORE INCOME TAXES	34,948	27,548	135,620	101,612	
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	8,533	(3,876) 2,858	(1,010)	
NET INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS	26,415	31,424	132,762	102,622	
DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS					
Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of tax	1,164	(1,213) (6,231) 1,047	
Gain on sale of discontinued operations, net of tax	_	163,598	-	588,071	
	1,164	162,385	(6,231) 589,118	
NET INCOME	\$27,579	\$193,809	\$126,531	\$691,740	
	$\psi 21,319$	ψ195,009	φ120,551	ψ071,740	
INCOME (LOSS) PER SHARE - BASIC:					
Income from continuing operations	\$0.21	\$0.25	\$1.08	\$0.82	
Discontinued operations	\$0.01	\$1.30	\$(0.05) \$4.69	
Net income	\$0.22	\$1.55	\$1.03	\$5.51	
INCOME (LOSS) PER SHARE - DILUTED:					
Income from continuing operations	\$0.21	\$0.25	\$1.07	\$0.81	

Discontinued operations	\$0.01	\$1.28	\$(0.05) \$4.64
Net income	\$0.22	\$1.53	\$1.02	\$5.45

ROWAN COMPANIES PLC AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (In thousands) (Unaudited)

	111100	months ended tember 30, 2011	1 (1110 111	onths ended ember 30, 2011
NET INCOME	\$27,579	\$193,809	\$126,531	\$691,740
Other comprehensive income, net of tax: Pension and other postretirement benefit adjustments, net of income taxes of \$1,845 and \$5,494, respectively:				
Amortization of net loss Amortization of transition obligation	4,131 77	-	12,305 231	-
Amortization of prior service cost	(782) -	(2,333) -
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	3,426	-	10,203	-
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	\$31,005	\$193,809	\$136,734	\$691,740

ROWAN COMPANIES PLC AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (In thousands) (Unaudited)

		onths ended mber 30, 2011
		-011
CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATIONS:		
Net income	\$126,531	\$691,740
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operations:		
Depreciation and amortization	183,323	150,236
Deferred income taxes	()) (30,880)
Provision for pension and postretirement benefits	27,813	12,059
Stock-based compensation expense	20,108	14,264
Gain on disposals of property, plant and equipment	(2,678) (3,932)
Gain on sale of manufacturing operations	-	(662,448)
Gain on sale of land drilling operations	-	(214,803)
Postretirement benefit claims paid) (2,188)
Contributions to pension plans	(41,761) (53,169)
Asset impairment charges	2,896	-
Write-off of deferred debt issuance costs	690	-
Changes in current assets and liabilities:		
Receivables - trade and other	(115,873) (41,570)
Inventories	-	(104,468)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(20,029) (3,538)
Accounts payable	(1,115) 60,785
Accrued income taxes	(2,259) 212,352
Deferred revenues	(245) 44,929
Billings in excess of costs and estimated profits on uncompleted contracts	-	29,493
Other current liabilities	10,349	(7,449)
Net changes in other noncurrent assets and liabilities	9,870	36,596
Net cash provided by operations	189,502	128,009
CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Capital expenditures	(566,089) (1,155,108)
Proceeds from sale of manufacturing operations	-	1,050,720
Proceeds from sale of land drilling operations	-	509,818
(Increase) decrease in restricted cash	-	15,265
Proceeds from disposals of property, plant and equipment	10,553	5,478
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(555,536) 426,173
CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from borrowings	493,415	-
Debt issue costs	(799) -
Repayments of borrowings	(238,453) (38,412)
Payments to acquire treasury stock	-	(80,924)
Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation	1,153	5,128

Proceeds from stock options	155	15,107	
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	255,471	(99,101))
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(110,563)	455,081	
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	438,853	437,479	
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF PERIOD	\$328,290	\$892,560	

Table of Contents

ROWAN COMPANIES PLC AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY (In thousands) (Unaudited)

Shares outstanding	Class A ordinary shares/ Common stock	Additional paid-in capital	Retained earnings	Treasury shares	other comprehensive	Total e shareholders'
126,294	\$15,794	\$1,433,999	\$2,449,521	\$(1,509) \$ (145,495) \$ 3,752,310
1 178	150	14 957		(1.604) _	13,503
1,170	150	14,937	-	(1,004) -	15,505
(2,508)	-	-	-	(80,924) -	(80,924)
-	-	16,766	-	-	-	16,766
		5 100				5 100
-	-		-	-	-	5,128
- 124,964	- \$15,944	- \$1,470,850	\$3,141,261	\$(84,037) \$ (145,495	691,740) \$ 4,398,523
123,581	\$15,947	\$1,478,233	\$3,186,362	\$(128,884) \$ (225,671) \$ 4,325,987
553	64	(21,362)	-	17,483	-	(3,815)
_	_	18,252	-	_	_	18,252
_	_	1,153	_	_	_	1,153
	outstanding 126,294 1,178 (2,508) - - - 124,964	Shares outstandingordinary shares/ Common stock126,294\$15,7941,178150(2,508)124,964\$15,944123,581\$15,947	Shares outstanding ordinary Shares/ Common stock Additional paid-in capital 126,294 \$15,794 \$1,433,999 1,178 150 14,957 (2,508) - - - - 16,766 - - - - - - - - 5,128 - - - 124,964 \$15,944 \$1,470,850 123,581 \$15,947 \$1,478,233 - - 18,252	ordinary shares/ common stockAdditional paid-in capitalRetained carnings126,294\$15,794\$1,433,999\$2,449,5211,17815014,957-(2,508)16,7665,128691,740124,964\$15,944\$1,470,850\$3,141,261123,581\$15,947\$1,478,233\$3,186,36255364(21,362)18,252-	Shares Ordinary shares/ common stock Additional paid-in capital Retained earnings Treasury shares/ shares 126,294 \$15,794 \$1,433,999 \$2,449,521 \$(1,509 1,178 150 14,957 - (1,604 (2,508) - - (80,924) - 16,766 - - - - 691,740 - 124,964 \$15,947 \$1,470,850 \$3,141,261 \$(84,037) 123,581 \$15,947 \$1,478,233 \$3,186,362 \$(128,884) 553 64 (21,362) - 17,483 - 18,252 - -	ordinary shares/ outstanding Additional paid-in capital Retained earnings Treasury shares Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) 126,294 \$15,794 \$1,433,999 \$2,449,521 \$(1,509) \$\$ (145,495) 1,178 150 14,957 - (1,604) > - (2,508) - - (80,924) > - - - 16,766 - - - - - 16,766 - - - - - 5,128 - - - - - 5,128 - - - - - - 691,740 - - 124,964 \$15,944 \$1,470,850 \$3,141,261 \$(84,037) \$\$ (125,671) 123,581 \$15,947 \$1,478,233 \$3,186,362 \$(128,884) \$\$ (225,671) 553 64 (21,362) - 17,483 - - - - 18,252 - - - -

Retirement							
benefit							
adjustments, net							
of taxes of							
\$5,494	-	-	-	-	-	10,203	10,203
Cancelation of							
treasury shares	-	(419) (109,068)	-	109,487	-	-
Other	52	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net income	-	-	-	126,531	-	-	126,531
Balance,							
September 30,							
2012	124,186	\$15,592	\$1,367,208	\$3,312,893	\$(1,914) \$ (215,468) \$ 4,478,311

Table of Contents

ROWAN COMPANIES PLC AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1 - Nature of Operations and Basis of Presentation

On May 4, 2012, Rowan Companies plc, a public limited company incorporated under the laws of England and Wales ("Rowan UK"), became the successor issuer to Rowan Companies, Inc. ("Rowan Delaware") pursuant to an agreement and plan of merger and reorganization (the "redomestication") approved by the stockholders of Rowan Delaware on April 16, 2012. As a result of the redomestication, Rowan UK became the parent company of the Rowan group of companies and our place of incorporation was effectively changed from Delaware to the United Kingdom. We remain subject to the Securities and Exchange Commission reporting requirements, the mandates of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the applicable corporate governance rules of the NYSE, and we will continue to report our consolidated financial results in U.S. dollars and in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("US GAAP"). We also must comply with additional reporting requirements of English law. The redomestication was accounted for as an internal reorganization of entities under common control; therefore, for purposes of these consolidated financial statements, the carrying values of assets and liabilities of the merged entities were carried forward without adjustment. Unless the context otherwise requires, the terms "Company," "we," "us" and "our" are used to refer to Rowan UK (or Rowan Delaware for periods prior to the redomestication) and its consolidated subsidiaries.

The Company is a major provider of international and domestic offshore oil and gas contract drilling services and provides its services utilizing a fleet of 31 self-elevating mobile offshore "jack-up" drilling units. The Company's primary focus is on high-specification and premium jack-up rigs, which its customers use for exploratory and development drilling and, in certain areas, well workover operations. Additionally, the Company has four ultra-deepwater drillships under construction, the first of which is scheduled for delivery in late 2013.

The Company conducts offshore drilling operations in various markets throughout the world including the North Sea, Middle East, Southeast Asia and U.S. Gulf of Mexico, among others.

The financial statements included in this Form 10-Q are presented in U.S. dollars and include the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries, all of which are wholly owned. Intercompany balances and transactions are eliminated in consolidation.

The financial statements included in this Form 10-Q have been prepared without audit in accordance with US GAAP for interim financial information and the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Certain information and notes have been condensed or omitted as permitted by those rules and regulations. Management believes the accompanying financial statements contain all adjustments, which are of a normal recurring nature unless otherwise noted, necessary for a fair statement of the results for the interim periods presented. The Company's results of operations and cash flows for the interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected for the full year. The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and related notes included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, as amended by Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 16, 2012.

In June and September 2011, the Company completed the sales of its manufacturing subsidiary, LeTourneau Technologies, Inc ("LeTourneau") and its land drilling operations, respectively. Manufacturing operations were previously reported as the "Drilling Products and Systems" and the "Mining, Forestry and Steel Products" segments, and land drilling operations were previously reported as a component of the "Drilling Services" segment. The Company

does not currently segment its continuing offshore drilling business for reporting purposes. Results of the former manufacturing and land drilling operations are classified as discontinued operations in the statement of income (see Note 2, "Discontinued Operations"). As permitted under US GAAP, the Company has chosen not to separately disclose cash flows pertaining to discontinued operations in the Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial information as of December 31, 2011, presented in this report does not constitute the Company's statutory accounts for that year within the meaning of the U.K. Companies Act 2006. Statutory accounts as required by the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended December 31, 2011 have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies in the U.K. The auditors reported on those accounts: their report was unqualified, did not draw attention to any matters by way of emphasis and did not contain a statement under s498(2) or (3) Companies Act 2006.

Table of Contents

ROWAN COMPANIES PLC AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Note 2 - Discontinued Operations

In June and September 2011, the Company completed the sales of its manufacturing and land drilling operations, respectively. Discontinued operations for the 2012 periods primarily consisted of write-offs of receivables assumed and a working capital adjustment to the sale price of the land drilling business, among other items. The following table sets forth the components of "Discontinued operations, net of tax" (in thousands):

Three months ended September	Manufacturi	2012 ing Drilling	Total	Manufacturing	2011 Drilling	Total	
30: Revenues	\$ -	\$ -	\$-	\$ -	\$35,804	\$35,804	
Revenues	Ψ	Ψ	Ψ	Ψ	ψ55,004	φ55,004	
Pretax income (loss)	\$1,666	\$(23) \$1,643	\$(8,449)	\$6,429	\$(2,020)
Provision (benefit) for							
taxes on income	2,090	(1,611) 479	(312)	(495) (807)
Income (loss) from							
discontinued							
operations, net of tax	(424) 1,588	1,164	(8,137)	6,924	(1,213)
Pretax gain on sale of							
discontinued operations	-	-	-	9,571	214,803	224,374	
Provision for tax on gain on sale	e -	-	-	990	59,786	60,776	
Gain on sale of discontinued							
operations, net of tax	-	-	-	8,581	155,017	163,598	