

WELLS WILLIAM H
 Form 4
 November 23, 2004

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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 *
WELLS WILLIAM H

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ROWAN COMPANIES INC [RDC]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 2800 POST OAK BLVD., SUITE 5450
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 11/19/2004

___ Director ___ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)
 Controller

HOUSTON, TX 77056-6127

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 ___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	11/23/2004		M	15,000 A \$ 18.25	24,970 ⁽¹⁾	D	
Common Stock	11/19/2004		S	14,500 D \$ 25.4857	10,470 ⁽¹⁾	D	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Amount or Number of Shares
Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 18.25	11/23/2004		M	3,750	04/27/2001 04/27/2010	Common Stock	3,750
Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 18.25	11/23/2004		M	3,750	04/27/2002 04/27/2010	Common Stock	3,750
Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 18.25	11/23/2004		M	3,750	04/27/2003 04/27/2010	Common Stock	3,750
Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 18.25	11/23/2004		M	3,750	04/27/2004 04/27/2010	Common Stock	3,750

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
WELLS WILLIAM H 2800 POST OAK BLVD. SUITE 5450 HOUSTON, TX 77056-6127			Controller	

Signatures

/s/ William H.
Wells
11/23/2004
Date

**Signature of
Reporting Person

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).

(1)

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Reflects the Reporting Person's aggregated directly-owned and indirectly-owned shares (5,845), the latter being shares in the Rowan Common Stock Fund under the Company's 401(k) plan (a unitized plan) at October 31, 2004, such number of shares, which fluctuates, being calculated as equivalent values based upon the value of the total units divided by the corresponding closing price of the underlying Rowan Common Stock on that date.

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.