

Nimocks Suzanne P
 Form 4
 December 15, 2010

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 Nimocks Suzanne P

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/13/2010

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

(Street)
 HOUSTON, TX 77056

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

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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Code V Amount (D) Price | | |

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

Persons who 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. SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of Derivative | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|

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| (Instr. 3) | Price of Derivative Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | (Instr. 3) | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------|---|------------|-----|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--|------|
| | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | |
| Restricted Stock Units | <u>(1)</u> | 12/13/2010 | A | | 742 | | <u>(2)</u> | <u>(2)</u> | Common Stock | 742 | \$ 0 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Nimocks Suzanne P 2800 POST OAK BLVD SUITE 5450 HOUSTON, TX 77056 | X | | | |

Signatures

/s/ Melanie M. Trent,
attorney-in-fact
Date: 12/15/2010

__Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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) Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Rowan Companies, Inc. common stock.

The units vest on the the earlier of the anniversary date of the grant or the date of the next annual meeting of stockholders. Vested shares (including any dividends) will be delivered to the reporting person after the final termination date of the reporting person's service on the

(2) Board of Directors. At the election of the Compensation Committee, such payout may be made in cash or shares. Upon election to the Board of Directors, a new director receives \$25,000 in value in restricted stock units. The 742 restricted stock units reported were calculated using the volume weighted average price of the common stock on December 13, 2010.

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.