Russell David Paul Form 3 January 12, 2005

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement ROWAN COMPANIES INC [RDC] A Russell David Paul (Month/Day/Year) 01/01/2005 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 2800 POST OAK (Check all applicable) BLVD, Â SUITE 5450 (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group 10% Owner Director _X__ Officer _ Other Filing(Check Applicable Line) (give title below) (specify below) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Vice President Person HOUSTON, TXÂ 77056-6127 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Common Stock 900 I 401(k) plan (1) Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) 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.

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
		Title	Security	Direct (D)	

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date		Amount or Number of Shares		or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Option (Right to Buy) (2)	04/27/2004	04/27/2010	Common Stock	1,500	\$ 0	D	Â
Option (Right to Buy) (2)	04/26/2004	04/26/2011	Common Stock	5,000	\$ 0	D	Â
Option (Right to Buy) (2)	09/20/2005	09/20/2011	Common Stock	1,950	\$ 0	D	Â
Option (Right to Buy) (2)	04/25/2005	04/25/2013	Common Stock	5,025	\$ 0	D	Â
Option (Right to Buy) (2)	07/21/2005	07/21/2014	Common Stock	10,000	\$ 0	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Relationships				
Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
Â	Â	Vice President	Â	
	Director \hat{A}	Director 10% Owner	Director 10% Owner Officer	

Signatures

/s/ David P.
Russell

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).
- Reflects the Reporting Person's indirectly-owned shares in the Rowan Common Stock Fund under the Company's 401(k) plan (a unitized (1) plan) at December 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.
- Options granted April 27, 2000, April 26, 2001, September 20, 2001, April 25, 2003 and July 21, 2004 under the Rowan Companies, Inc. 1988 Nonqualified Stock Option Plan (a Rule 16b-3 Plan), such options being exercisable 25% for each year from date of grant. The amount in Column 3 reflects the unexercised portion of this particular grant.

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.

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