

Mai Mark Francis
 Form 4
 December 20, 2018

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 *
 Mai Mark Francis

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/18/2018

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 EVP, General Counsel and Secty

HOUSTON, TX 77056
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount or Price		
Class A Ordinary Shares	12/18/2018		F(1)(2)(3)		25,068 (1) (2) \$ 8.965 (4) 55,355 (5)	D	

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

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

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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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Transaction (Instr. 6)
				Code V (A) (D)		Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Mai Mark Francis 2800 POST OAK BOULEVARD SUITE 5450 HOUSTON, TX 77056			EVP, General Counsel and Secty	

Signatures

/s/ Mark F. Mai 12/20/2018

__Signature of Date
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) On December 18, 2018, the compensation committee (the "Committee") of the board of directors of the Issuer considered the potential adverse tax consequences to the Issuer and to certain of the executive officers of the Company, including Mr. Mai (collectively, the "Impacted Officers"), under Sections 280G and 4999 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, as amended, resulting from the treatment of potential payments that may be made pursuant to the Change in Control Agreement between the Issuer and each of the Impacted Officers in connection with the merger contemplated by the Transaction Agreement, dated as of October 7, 2018, between the Issuer and Ensco plc.
- (2) In order to mitigate the potential adverse tax consequences, the Committee has converted all outstanding restricted share units previously awarded to Mr. Mai under the Issuer's Amended and Restated 2013 Rowan Companies plc Incentive Plan (each, a "RSU Award") to restricted shares (the "Restricted Shares"). Each such Restricted Share will vest in accordance, and subject to, the terms and conditions of the underlying RSU Award from which it was converted.
- (3) In order to satisfy certain tax liabilities of Mr. Mai in connection with his election under Section 83(b) of the Code with respect to the acquisition of the Restricted Shares, the Committee accelerated the vesting of and withheld Restricted Shares with a fair market value equal to the employment and income tax liability imposed on such Restricted Shares.
- (4) Sales price is the fair market value on December 18, 2018.
- (5) Includes 46,484 Restricted Shares held by the reporting person.

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.