ROWAN COMPANIES INC

Form 4 May 19, 2005

FORM 4

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

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Check this box

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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

SECURITIES

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1 Name and Address of Departing De

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person ** KELLER MARK A			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ROWAN COMPANIES INC [RDC]					5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer				
	(First) (DAK BLVD, SU	Middle)		Earliest Transaction ay/Year)				DirectorX Officer (give below)		Owner (specify		
				4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)					Senior Vice President 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person			
HOUSTON, TX 77056-6127								Form filed by More than One Reporting Person				
(City)	(State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned									ly Owned		
	2. Transaction Dat (Month/Day/Year)	Executio any		3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3,	ispose	d of (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)			
Common Stock	05/17/2005			A	6,800	A	\$ 0	31,709 (1)	D			
Common Stock	05/17/2005			I	1,735	A	\$ 25.86	33,444 (1)	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)

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 or 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 o Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Share
Option (Right to Buy) (2)	\$ 24.98	05/17/2005		A	14,600	05/17/2006 <u>(2)</u>	05/17/2015	Common Stock	14,600

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

KELLER MARK A 2800 POST OAK BLVD SUITE 5450 HOUSTON, TX 77056-6127

Senior Vice President

Signatures

/s/ Mark A. 05/19/2005 Keller

**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).
- Reflects the Reporting Person's aggregated directly-owned and indirectly-owned shares (4,144), the latter being shares in the Rowan

 Common Stock Fund under the Company's 401(k) plan (a unitized plan) at May 17, 2005, 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.
- (2) This option, which was granted May 17, 2005 under the 2005 Rowan Companies, Inc. Long-Term Incentive Plan, vests in four equal installments beginning on May 17, 2006.

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.

Reporting Owners 2