

ROWAN COMPANIES INC
Form 8-K
October 14, 2004

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 14, 2004

ROWAN COMPANIES, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

1-5491
(Commission
file Number)

75-0759420
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

**2800 POST OAK BOULEVARD
SUITE 5450
HOUSTON, TEXAS**
(Address of principal executive offices)

77056-6127
(zip code)

(713) 621-7800
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 14a-12)
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240-14d-2(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240-13e-4(c))
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Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement

The following information is disclosed pursuant to Item 1.01 - Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement:

On October 14, 2004, Rowan Companies, Inc. issued a press release announcing that it had entered into a definitive agreement to sell its wholly-owned subsidiary Era Aviation, Inc to SEACOR Holdings Inc. for \$118.1 million in cash. The press release is attached as Exhibit 99.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description
99	Press release of Rowan Companies, Inc. dated October 14, 2004

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

ROWAN COMPANIES, INC.

By: /s/ E. E. THIELE

E. E. Thiele,
Senior Vice President - Administration, Finance and Treasurer (Principal Financial Officer)

Dated: October 14, 2004

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

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