

TIDEWATER INC
Form 8-K
October 05, 2007

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 4, 2007

TIDEWATER INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State of incorporation)

1-6311
(Commission File Number)

72-0487776
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

601 Poydras Street, Suite 1900
(Address of principal executive offices)

(504) 568-1010

70130
(Zip Code)

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

N/A

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrants 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 240.14a-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 8.01. Other Events

In accordance with the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, the Company notes that certain statements set forth in this Current Report on Form 8-K provide other than historical information and are forward looking. The actual achievement of any forecasted results, or the unfolding of future economic or business developments in a way anticipated or projected by the Company, involve numerous risks and uncertainties. Among those risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the control of the Company, include, without limitation, fluctuations in oil and gas prices; level of fleet additions by competitors and vessel overcapacity; changes in capital spending by customers in the energy industry for exploration, development and production; changing customer demands for different vessel specifications which may make some of our vessels technologically obsolete for certain customer projects or in certain markets; acts of terrorism; significant weather conditions; unsettled political conditions, war, civil unrest and governmental actions, especially in higher risk countries of operations; foreign currency fluctuations; and environmental and labor laws. Readers should consider all of these risk factors as well as other information contained in this report.

On October 4, 2007, the company issued a press release announcing that, as previously disclosed, the Audit Committee of its Board of Directors had engaged special counsel to conduct an internal investigation into the legality, under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), of its Nigerian affiliate's reimbursement of certain payments made by a third party agent to procure temporary importation permits and other authorizations necessary for Tidewater's vessels and crews to operate in Nigerian waters, as well as to review certain practices and transactions in other jurisdictions to determine whether an expansion of the original scope of the investigation was warranted.

The Audit Committee has now determined that other aspects of the company's international operations merit a more intensive FCPA review and, accordingly, the scope of the investigation has been expanded to include the review of the company's use in certain markets of third party marketing and other agents, and immigration and customs practices of the company in other countries.

The press release is filed as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report and is incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits

The following exhibits are furnished with this Form 8-K:

99.1 Press Release dated October 4, 2007.

SIGNATURE

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.

TIDEWATER INC.

By: /s/ J. Keith Lousteau
J. Keith Lousteau
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Date: October 4, 2007