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NOBLE CORP  
Form 8-K  
December 15, 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): DECEMBER 15, 2004

NOBLE CORPORATION  
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

CAYMAN ISLANDS  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

0-13857  
(Commission file number)

98-036  
(I.R.S. employer iden

13135 SOUTH DAIRY ASHFORD, SUITE 800  
SUGAR LAND, TEXAS  
(Address of principal executive offices)

77478  
(Zip code)

REGISTRANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER, INCLUDING AREA CODE: (281) 276-6100

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX BELOW IF THE FORM 8-K FILING IS INTENDED TO  
SIMULTANEOUSLY SATISFY THE FILING OBLIGATION OF THE REGISTRANT UNDER ANY OF THE  
FOLLOWING PROVISIONS (SEE GENERAL A.2. BELOW):

- 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-2(c))

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ITEM 7.01. REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE.

The Registrant hereby incorporates by reference into this Item 7.01 the  
Noble Corporation and Subsidiaries Fleet Status Update as of December 15, 2004  
of the Registrant, which is attached as Exhibit 99.1 and will be published on

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the Registrant's web site at <http://www.noblecorp.com>. The report provides certain summary information about the operations of the drilling units of the Registrant. The report is being furnished in accordance with Rule 101 (e) (1) under Regulation FD and shall not be deemed to be filed.

ITEM 9.01. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(c) Exhibits

Exhibit 99.1 Noble Corporation and Subsidiaries Fleet Status Update as of December 15, 2004.

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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, thereunto duly authorized.

NOBLE CORPORATION

Date: December 15, 2004

By:/s/ MARK A. JACKSON

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Mark A. Jackson,  
Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer,  
Treasurer, Controller and Assistant Secretary

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INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit No.  
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Description  
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Exhibit 99.1

Noble Corporation and Subsidiaries Fleet Status Update as of December 15, 2004.

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