

PATTERSON COMPANIES, INC.

Form 8-K

March 16, 2011

**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**

**March 15, 2011**

**Date of report**

**PATTERSON COMPANIES, INC.**

**(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)**

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(State or Other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

(Commission  
File Number)  
**1031 Mendota Heights Road**

(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**St. Paul, Minnesota 55120**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices, including Zip Code)

**(651) 686-1600**

(Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code)

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:

- .. 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))

Item 8.01 Other Events

On March 15, 2011, the board of directors of Patterson Companies, Inc. (the Company) approved a new share repurchase plan that replaces the existing share repurchase plan. Under the new plan, up to 25 million shares may be repurchased. The shares can be purchased in open market transactions through March 15, 2016. There were approximately 4.5 million shares available to be repurchased under the previous plan that has been replaced.

In addition, the board of directors approved an increase in the quarterly cash dividend to \$0.12 per share from \$0.10 per share, payable April 28, 2011 to shareholders of record as of the close of business on April 11, 2011.

A press release dated March 16, 2011 that describes the new share repurchase plan and the increase in the dividend was issued by the Company. A copy of this press release is furnished as exhibit 99 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

99 Press release dated March 16, 2011

**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.

PATTERSON COMPANIES, INC.

Date: March 16, 2011

By: /s/ R. Stephen Armstrong  
R. Stephen Armstrong  
Executive Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

Exhibit

Number	Description
99	Press release dated March 16, 2011