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ATWOOD OCEANICS INC
Form 8-K
September 03, 2002

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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 EARLIEST EVENT REPORTED: September 3, 2002

ATWOOD OCEANICS, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

COMMISSION FILE NUMBER 1-13167

TEXAS
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

74-1611874
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

15835 Park Ten Place Drive
Houston, Texas
(Address of principal executive offices)

77084
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:
281-749-7800

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ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS

On September 3, 2002, the Company announced that the VICKSBURG has been awarded a two year contract by ExxonMobil Exploration and Production Malaysia Inc. ("EMEPMI") for operations off the coast of Malaysia, with EMEPMI having the right to terminate the contract after one year at any time with a 120 days notice period. A copy of the press release announcing the contract award is filed with the Form 8-K as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 7. EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT 99.1 PRESS RELEASE DATED SEPTEMBER 3, 2002

EXHIBIT 99.2 CONTRACT STATUS SUMMARY AT SEPTEMBER 3, 2002

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ITEM 9. REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE

The ATWOOD SOUTHERN CROSS is currently expected to complete its one-well drilling program for Oil Fields Ltd in Israel around September 6, 2002. When this drilling program is completed, the rig will be idle three to four weeks while completing certain upgrades to meet certain Italian requirements before it can commence its next contract for Eni S.p.A. - AGIP division ("AGIP"). These required upgrades are estimated to cost approximately \$750,000, with AGIP covering \$550,000 of these costs. The operating dayrate for the AGIP work is \$60,000, with the work estimated to take 60 to 90 days to complete.

Additional information with respect to the Company's contract status summary at September 3, 2002 is attached hereto as EXHIBIT 99.2, which is being furnished in accordance with Rule 101 (e) (1) under Regulation FD and should not be deemed to be filed.

Statements contained in this report with respect to the future are forward-looking statements. These statements reflect management's reasonable judgment with respect to future events. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those anticipated as a result of various factors; the Company's dependence on the oil and gas industry; the risks involved in upgrade to the Company's rigs; competition; operating risks; risks involved in foreign operations; risks associated with possible disruptions in operations due to terrorism; and governmental regulations and environmental matters. A list of additional risk factors can be found in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2001, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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.

ATWOOD OCEANICS, INC.
(Registrant)

/s/ James M. Holland
James M. Holland
Senior Vice President

DATE: September 3, 2002

EXHIBIT INDEX

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EXHIBIT NO.	DESCRIPTION
99.1	Press Release Dated September 3, 2002
99.2	Contract Status Summary at September 3, 2002

EXHIBIT 99.1

HOUSTON, TEXAS
3 SEPTEMBER 2002

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Atwood Oceanics, Inc. (a Houston based internationally offshore drilling contractor - NYSE - ATW) announced today that the VICKSBURG has been awarded a two year contract by ExxonMobil Exploration and Production Malaysia Inc. ("EMEPMI") for operations off the coast of Malaysia, with EMEPMI having the right to terminate the contract after one year at any time with a 120 days notice period. The operating dayrate is \$64,500, with EMEPMI having an option for one additional year at a mutually agreed dayrate. The contract provides for EMEPMI to reimburse the Company for approximately \$3.6 million of certain modifications and equipment upgrades to be performed on the rig, which is expected to take at least 18 days to complete, prior to it commencing the drilling program. The contract provides for the Company to receive a dayrate of \$52,000 for 18 days during the upgrade period. The VICKSBURG completed its contract with Carigali-Triton Operating Company on September 1, 2002 and is currently undergoing the modifications and upgrades for the EMEPMI contract.

CONTACT: JIM HOLLAND
(281) 749-7804

EXHIBIT 99.2
ATWOOD OCEANICS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONTRACT STATUS SUMMARY
AT SEPTEMBER 3, 2002

NAME OF RIG -----	LOCATION -----	CUSTOMER -----	CONTRACT STATUS -----
SEMISUBMERSIBLES - -----			
ATWOOD FALCON	MALAYSIA	SARAWAK SHELL BERHAD/ SABAH SHELL PETROLEUM COMPANY LTD	The rig is conducting a Sarawak Shell Berhad and ("Shell"). The drilling plus provides Shell with wells. Immediately upon commitment for its firm

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			rig will be moved to Australia providing for the drilling of three additional wells.
ATWOOD HUNTER	EGYPT	BURULLUS GAS COMPANY	The rig commenced an eleventh contract in December 2001 estimated to last 18 months. Contract opportunities to the rig's current contract are being sought internationally.
ATWOOD EAGLE	SHIPYARD IN GREECE		The rig is currently undergoing a water-depth upgrade and is expected to take approximately six months (October/November 2002). The upgrade will commence following the rig's return to the market internationally.
SEAHAWK	MALAYSIA	EXXONMOBIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION MALAYSIA INC	The rig's current contract is for 18 months with an option for the OMEGA contract.
ATWOOD SOUTHERN CROSS	MEDITERRANEAN SEA	ENI S.P.A. - AGIP DIVISION ("AGIP")	The rig is currently expected to complete its contract for Oil Fields in the Mediterranean in 2002 and will then be idled until completing the required modifications and requirements under its contract. Following completion of these requirements, the rig will commence the AGIP contract in 2002 to take 60 to 90 days to complete.
SEASCOUT	UNITED STATES GULF OF MEXICO		The SEASCOUT was purchased in 1998 and is currently undergoing conversion to a tender-assisted jack-up rig. Once an acceptable contract is secured, the rig will be returned to service.
CANTILEVER JACK-UPS - ----- VICKSBURG	MALAYSIA	EXXONMOBIL EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION MALAYSIA INC. ("EMEPMI")	The rig is preparing to undergo modifications and upgrades for the EMEPMI contract (including a two-year drilling program, with an option for one additional year), with the contract to terminate the drilling program in 2002 with a 120 days notice period.
ATWOOD BEACON	UNDER CONSTRUCTION		The Company expects the BEACON to be completed as a jack-up drilling unit to be used in the Gulf of Mexico.
SUBMERSIBLE - ----- RICHMOND	UNITED STATES GULF OF MEXICO	EL PASO PRODUCTION OIL & GAS	The rig's current contract is for 18 months ending in September 2002 unless the rig is awarded an option to drill one more well. The rig was awarded a contract by Apache in 2001 to drill one firm well (estimated to be completed following completion of the rig's current contract).
MODULAR PLATFORMS - ----- GOODWYN 'A' / NORTH RANKIN 'A'	AUSTRALIA	WOODSIDE ENERGY LTD.	There is currently an in-progress contract for the rig to be used in the North Rankin 'A' field in Australia.

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Company. The Company is
two rigs for future dril