

NOBLE CORP
Form 8-K
March 06, 2006

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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): March 2, 2006

NOBLE CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

CAYMAN ISLANDS

001-31306

98-0366361

(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

(Commission File
Number)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

13135 South Dairy Ashford, Suite 800

Sugar Land, Texas

77478

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(281) 276-6100**

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

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))
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Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On March 2, 2006, Noble Corporation (the Company), Noble Holding (U.S.) Corporation (NHC), Noble Drilling Corporation (the Borrower) and Goldman Sachs Credit Partners L.P., as the initial lender and administrative agent (GSCP), entered into a Second Amendment to Credit Agreement (the Second Amendment). The Second Amendment amends the Credit Agreement, dated as of December 22, 2005, as amended by the First Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of February 17, 2006 (as amended, the Credit Agreement), between the Company, NHC, the Borrower and GSCP, to extend the Maturity Date (as defined in the Credit Agreement) of the US\$600 million borrowed under the Credit Agreement on December 22, 2005 and to provide GSCP a right to syndication under certain conditions. The Maturity Date has been extended from May 22, 2006 to April 1, 2007. All other terms of the Credit Agreement continue to be in full force and effect. A copy of the Second Amendment is filed as Exhibit 10.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference. Each of NHC, the Borrower and Noble Drilling Holding LLC is a direct or indirect wholly owned subsidiary of the Company.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) *Exhibits.*

EXHIBIT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
10.1	Second Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of March 2, 2006, among Noble Corporation, Noble Holding (U.S.) Corporation, Noble Drilling Corporation and Goldman Sachs Credit Partners L.P.

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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 hereunto duly authorized.

NOBLE CORPORATION

Date: March 3, 2006

By: /s/ Mark A. Jackson
Mark A. Jackson
President and Chief Operating
Officer

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