

Ensco plc
Form 8-K
February 07, 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
DATE OF REPORT (Date of earliest event reported): 6 February 2011
Ensco plc**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

England and Wales
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation)

1-8097
(Commission File Number)

98-0635229
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

**6 Chesterfield Gardens
London, England W1J 5BQ**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices and Zip Code)
Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **+44 (0) 20 7659 4660**
Not Applicable

(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.

Agreement and Plan of Merger

On 6 February 2011, Enscopl (Enscopl) entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the Merger Agreement) with Pride International, Inc., a Delaware corporation (Pride), ENSCO International Incorporated, a Delaware corporation and an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Enscopl (Delaware Sub), and ENSCO Ventures LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Enscopl (Merger Sub). Pursuant to the Merger Agreement and subject to the conditions set forth therein, Merger Sub will merge with and into Pride (the Merger), with Pride as the surviving entity and an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Enscopl.

As a result of the Merger, each outstanding share of Pride s common stock (other than shares of common stock held directly or indirectly by Enscopl, Pride or any wholly-owned subsidiary of Enscopl or Pride (which will be cancelled as a result of the Merger), those shares with respect to which appraisal rights under Delaware law are properly exercised and not withdrawn and other shares held by certain U.K. residents if determined by Enscopl) will be converted into the right to receive \$15.60 in cash and 0.4778 American Depositary Shares (ADSs) representing Class A ordinary shares of Enscopl. Under certain circumstances, UK residents may receive all cash consideration as a result of compliance with legal requirements.

At the effective time of the Merger, all outstanding equity awards of Pride will vest, restricted stock units will be paid to the holder in Pride common stock and will be converted to cash and Enscopl ADSs on the same basis as other outstanding shares of Pride common stock, and all vested and unexercised Pride stock options will be assumed by Enscopl and converted into equivalent options to acquire Enscopl ADSs based on an exchange ratio equal to 0.4778 plus a fraction obtained by dividing \$15.60 by the average closing price of Enscopl ADSs for the five trading days ending three trading days before the closing of the Merger.

The completion of the Merger is subject to certain conditions, including, among others, (i) the adoption of the Merger Agreement by the stockholders of Pride and the approval of the delivery of the ADSs by the shareholders of Enscopl, (ii) the expiration or termination of the applicable waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, and the absence of any pending governmental proceeding or order to restrain the transactions in specified jurisdictions, including the United States, (iii) subject to certain materiality exceptions, the accuracy of the representations and warranties made by Enscopl, Pride, Delaware Sub and Merger Sub, respectively, and compliance by Enscopl, Pride, Delaware Sub and Merger Sub with their respective covenants and agreements under the Merger Agreement, (iv) the declaration of the effectiveness by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) of the registration statements on Form S-4 and Form F-6 and, if applicable, the UK Listing Authority shall have approved Enscopl s prospectus, (v) the Enscopl ADSs to be delivered pursuant to the Merger shall have been authorized for listing on the New York Stock Exchange and (vi) other customary closing conditions.

Each of Enscopl, Pride, Merger Sub and Delaware Sub has made representations and warranties in the Merger Agreement. Enscopl and Pride have made covenants to conduct their businesses in the ordinary course between the execution of the Merger Agreement and the consummation of the Merger and covenants not to engage in certain kinds of transactions during that period. Enscopl and Pride have made certain additional covenants, including, among others, covenants, subject to certain exceptions, (i) not to solicit proposals regarding alternative business combination transactions, (ii) not to enter into discussions concerning, or provide confidential information in connection with, alternative business combination transactions, (iii) to cause shareholder meetings and stockholder meetings, respectively, to be held to approve the delivery of ADSs in connection with the Merger and the adoption of the Merger Agreement, respectively, and (iv) for their respective Boards of Directors to recommend approval of such proposals. In addition, Enscopl has made covenants to use its reasonable best efforts to obtain financing on the same or more favorable terms as in the Commitment Letter described below.

The Merger Agreement may be terminated under certain circumstances, including if the Board of Directors of either Pride or Enscopl has determined in good faith that it has received a superior proposal and otherwise complies with certain terms of the Merger Agreement. Upon the termination of the Merger Agreement, under specified circumstances, including the failure to obtain a party s shareholder approval, such party

will be required to pay a fee to the other party of \$50 million. Upon the termination of the Merger Agreement under other specified circumstances, including (1) the decision to accept a superior proposal, (2) a change in board recommendation, or (3) a failure to obtain shareholder approval after public disclosure of an alternative business combination proposal before the shareholder meeting and either the Board of Directors determines such proposal to be a superior proposal or, within 12 months after termination of the Merger Agreement, the party enters into a definitive agreement or consummates an alternative business combination proposal, such party will be required to pay the other party a termination fee of \$260 million.

Additionally, Ensco has agreed that it will cause two non-employee current directors designated by Pride to be appointed to the Board of Directors of Ensco at the closing of the Merger. Each designee will be appointed to the class of directors selected by Ensco and will stand for election for the remaining portion of the term of office, if any, for such class at the next annual general meeting of Ensco shareholders for which a notice of the meeting has not been sent at the time of the appointment. Ensco management will recommend to the nominating, governance and compensation committee of the Ensco Board of Directors that such designees be nominated for election at such annual general meeting.

The foregoing description of the Merger Agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby is not complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the Merger Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.1 and the terms of which are incorporated herein by reference.

The Merger Agreement has been included to provide investors and security holders with information regarding its terms. It is not intended to provide any other financial information about Ensco, Pride or their respective subsidiaries and affiliates. The representations, warranties and covenants contained in the Merger Agreement were made only for purposes of that agreement and as of specific dates; were solely for the benefit of the parties to the Merger Agreement; may be subject to limitations agreed upon by the parties, including being qualified by confidential disclosures; were made for the purposes of allocating contractual risk between the parties to the Merger Agreement instead of establishing these matters as facts; and may be subject to standards of materiality applicable to the contracting parties that differ from those applicable to investors. Investors should not rely on the representations, warranties and covenants or any description thereof as characterizations of the actual state of facts or condition of Ensco, Merger Sub, Delaware Sub or Pride or any of their respective subsidiaries or affiliates. Moreover, information concerning the subject matter of the representations, warranties and covenants may change after the date of the Merger Agreement, which subsequent information may or may not be fully reflected in public disclosures by Ensco and Pride.

Financing Commitments

On 6 February 2011, Ensco entered into a bridge commitment letter (the **Commitment Letter**) with Deutsche Bank AG Cayman Islands Branch (**DBCI**), Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and Citigroup Global Markets Inc. (**Citi**). Pursuant to the Commitment Letter, DBCI and Citi have committed to provide a \$2.75 billion unsecured bridge term loan facility (the **Bridge Term Facility**) to fund a portion of the cash consideration in the Merger. The Bridge Term Facility would mature 364 days after closing. The commitment is subject to various conditions, including the absence of a material adverse effect on Pride or Ensco having occurred, the maintenance by Ensco of investment grade credit ratings, the execution of satisfactory documentation and other customary closing conditions.

The foregoing description of the Commitment Letter and the transactions contemplated thereby is not complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the Commitment Letter, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and the terms of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Item 8.01 Other Events.

On 7 February 2011, Ensco and Pride issued a joint press release announcing that they had entered into the Merger Agreement. A copy of the press release is filed as Exhibit 99.2 hereto and incorporated into this Item 8.01 by reference.

Important Additional Information Regarding The Transaction Will Be Filed With The SEC

In connection with the proposed transaction, Enscopl will file a registration statement including a joint proxy statement/prospectus of Enscopl and Pride with the SEC. INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS OF ENSCO AND PRIDE ARE ADVISED TO CAREFULLY READ THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT AND PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS (INCLUDING ALL AMENDMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTS TO IT) WHEN IT BECOMES AVAILABLE BECAUSE IT WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRANSACTION, THE PARTIES TO THE TRANSACTION AND THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TRANSACTION. A definitive joint proxy statement/prospectus will be sent to security holders of Enscopl and Pride seeking their approval of the proposed transaction. Investors and security holders may obtain a free copy of the joint proxy statement/prospectus (when available) and other relevant documents filed by Enscopl and Pride with the SEC from the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. Security holders and other interested parties will also be able to obtain, without charge, a copy of the joint proxy statement/prospectus and other relevant documents (when available) by directing a request by mail or telephone to either Investor Relations, Enscopl, 500 N. Akard, Suite 4300, Dallas, Texas 75201, telephone 214-397-3015, or Investor Relations, Pride International, Inc., 5847 San Felipe, Suite 3300, Houston, Texas 77057, telephone 713-789-1400. Copies of the documents filed by Enscopl with the SEC will be available free of charge on Enscopl's website at www.enscopl.com under the tab Investors. Copies of the documents filed by Pride with the SEC will be available free of charge on Pride's website at www.prideinternational.com under the tab Investor Relations. Security holders may also read and copy any reports, statements and other information filed with the SEC at the SEC public reference room at 100 F Street N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at (800) 732-0330 or visit the SEC's website for further information on its public reference room. Enscopl and Pride and their respective directors, executive officers and certain other members of management may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from their respective security holders with respect to the transaction. Information about these persons is set forth in Enscopl's proxy statement relating to its 2010 General Meeting of Shareholders and Pride's proxy statement relating to its 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, as filed with the SEC on 5 April 2010 and 1 April 2010, respectively, and subsequent statements of changes in beneficial ownership on file with the SEC. Security holders and investors may obtain additional information regarding the interests of such persons, which may be different than those of the respective companies' security holders generally, by reading the joint proxy statement/prospectus and other relevant documents regarding the transaction, which will be filed with the SEC.

Forward-Looking Statements

Statements included in this document regarding the consummation of the proposed transaction, benefits, expected synergies and other expense savings and operational and administrative efficiencies, opportunities, timing, expense and effects of the transaction, contemplated financing of the transaction, financial performance, accretion to earnings, revenue growth, future dividend levels, credit ratings or other attributes of the combined companies and other statements that are not historical facts, are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include words or phrases such as anticipate, believe, contemplate, estimate, expect, intend, plan, project, could, may, and words and phrases of similar import. These statements involve risks and uncertainties including, but not limited to, actions by regulatory authorities, rating agencies or other third parties, actions by the respective companies' security holders, costs and difficulties related to integration of acquired businesses, delays, costs and difficulties related to the transaction, market conditions, and the combined companies' financial results and performance, consummation of financing, satisfaction of closing conditions, ability to repay debt and timing thereof, availability and terms of any financing and other factors detailed in risk factors and elsewhere in each company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, and their respective other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC), which are available on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize (or the other consequences of such a development worsen), or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual outcomes may vary materially from those forecasted or expected. All information in this document is as of today. Except as required by law, both companies disclaim any intention or obligation to update publicly or revise such statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Description
2.1	Agreement and Plan of Merger by and among Ensco plc, Pride International, Inc., ENSCO International Incorporated, and ENSCO Ventures LLC, dated 6 February 2011.
99.1	Bridge Commitment Letter dated 6 February 2011.
99.2	Press Release dated 7 February 2011.

A copy of any omitted schedules will be provided to the SEC upon request.

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.

Ensco plc

Date: 7 February 2011

/s/ Cary A. Moomjian, Jr.
Cary A. Moomjian, Jr.
Vice President, General Counsel and
Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

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