

Smith Mark W.
Form 4
December 11, 2012

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Smith Mark W.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

ATWOOD OCEANICS INC [ATW]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
15835 PARK TEN PLACE DRIVE
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)

12/07/2012

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)

VP, Corporate Services

HOUSTON, TX 77084

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (D) | Price |
| Common Stock | 12/07/2012 | | A | | 4,575 | A | 11,533 |
| | | | | | | D | |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Performance-Based Restricted Stock Units | <u>(2)</u> | 12/07/2012 | | A | 4,622 | 03/15/2016 03/15/2016 | Common Stock |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Smith Mark W. 15835 PARK TEN PLACE DRIVE HOUSTON, TX 77084 | | | VP, Corporate Services | |

Signatures

/s/ Mark Smith, Walter A. Baker By Power of Attorney
12/11/2012

**Signature of Reporting Person
Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) These shares of common stock were granted as a Restricted Stock Award under the Atwood Oceanics, Inc. Amended and Restated 2007 Long-Term Incentive Plan. One-hundred percent (100%) of the restricted stock award vests at the end of three (3) years.
- (2) The performance-based restricted stock units vest after a three-year period in an amount ranging from 0-200% of the units awarded based upon company total shareholder return compared with the total shareholder return of a designated peer group over the vesting period. The units provide for payment of all earned shares in common stock following the end of the three-year period.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.