HELMERICH HANS

Form 4

December 14, 2010

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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if no longer

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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 may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

12/10/2010

Stock

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **HELMERICH HANS** Issuer Symbol ATWOOD OCEANICS INC [ATW] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) X Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify 15835 PARK TEN PLACE DRIVE 12/10/2010 below) (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting HOUSTON, TX 77084 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial Indirect (I) (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned Ownership Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

D

12,886

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

2,668

A

<u>(1)</u>

A

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1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exercis	sable and	7. Title and	d 8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	TransactionNumber		Expiration Date		Amount of	f Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/Yo	ear)	Underlying	g Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivativ	Derivative		Securities	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative		•		Securities Acquired			(Instr. 3 ar	nd 4)	Owne
	Security								Follo	
	•				(A) or					Repo
					Disposed					Trans
					of (D) (Instr. 3,					(Instr
				4, and 5)						
				Code V	(A) (D)	Data I	7mimatian	Title Am	avet	
				Code V	(A) (D)			Title Am	lount	
						Exercisable I	Date	or	1	
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								of		
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Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Director 10% Owner Officer Other

HELMERICH HANS 15835 PARK TEN PLACE DRIVE X HOUSTON, TX 77084

Signatures

Reporting Person

Hans Helmerich 12/14/2010 **Signature of 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).
- These shares of common stock were granted as a Restricted Stock Award under the Atwood Oceanics, Inc. 2007 Long-Term Incentive Plan. One-hundred percent (100%) of the restricted stock award vests thirteen months after the date of award unless an **(1)** election is made to defer vesting to a later date under the Atwood Oceanics, Inc. Nonemployee Directors Elective Deferred Compensation Plan.

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.

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