

DAY JAMES C  
Form 4  
January 18, 2005

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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 \*  
DAY JAMES C

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
13135 SO. DAIRY  
ASHFORD, SUITE 800  
(Street)

SUGAR LAND, TX 77478

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
NOBLE CORP [NE]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
01/17/2005

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
COB & CEO

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

**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 Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Ordinary Shares	01/17/2005		A <sup>(1)</sup>	V	893.58 <sup>(1)</sup>	A	\$ 48.96 <sup>(1)</sup>
Ordinary Shares					7,773.9931 <sup>(3)</sup>	I	
							By Trust

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

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 Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Reporting Transaction (Instr. 6)
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## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
DAY JAMES C 13135 SO. DAIRY ASHFORD SUITE 800 SUGAR LAND, TX 77478	X		COB & CEO	

## Signatures

/s/ James C. Day                      01/17/2005

\_\_Signature of                      Date  
Reporting Person

## 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) Consists of Ordinary Shares to be awarded to the Reporting Person on the last business day of January, February and March 2005 by the Issuer in lieu of a portion of the Reporting Person's cash salary at the election of the Reporting Person. The Reporting Person has elected to defer the receipt of such shares under the Noble Drilling Corporation 401(k) Savings Restoration Plan. The price of such shares was calculated as the average closing price of the Ordinary Shares during the last fifteen trading days of the quarter ended December 31, 2004.
  - (2) Includes 24,113.064 shares related to phantom stock units allocated to the Reporting Person under the Noble Drilling Corporation 401(k) Savings Restoration Plan, which units are payable to the Reporting Person solely in Ordinary Shares upon any distribution of such units from such plan. Shares allocated under such plan were previously held in a rabbi trust and previously reported as "indirectly" owned by the Reporting Person.
  - (3) Shares are held in the Noble Drilling Corporation 401(k) Savings Plan Trust.

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.