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FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OWR APPRO	VAL
OMB Number:	3235-0287
Estimated average burde	en
hours per response:	0.5

1. Name and Addre	ss of Reporting Pers	on*	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>NATIONAL OILWELL INC</u> [NOI]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director 10% Owner					
(Last) 5500 WAYZAT. SUITE 800	5500 WAYZATA BLVD.		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/11/2004		Officer (give title below)	Other (specify below)			
(Street) GOLDEN VALLEY (City)	MN (State)	55416 (Zip)	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Indiv Line) X	vidual or Joint/Group Fil Form filed by One Re Form filed by More th Person	eporting Person			

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

1. Title of Securit	y (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transa Code (8)	ction	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
				Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(Instr. 4)

(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)	Tabl			•	•	, or Beneficially	v Owned	
		(e.g., put	s, calls, warra	its, optior	ns, converti	ble 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. Transa Code (8)		5. Num of Deriva Securi Acquir (A) or Dispos of (D) (Instr. and 5)	tive ties red sed 3, 4	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Non- Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$28.22	03/11/2004		А		2,500		03/11/2005	03/12/2014	Common Stock	2,500	\$0	2,500	D	
Non- Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 28.22	03/11/2004		A		2,500		03/11/2006	03/12/2014	Common Stock	2,500	\$0	5,000	D	
Non- Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$28.22	03/11/2004		А		2,500		03/11/2007	03/12/2014	Common Stock	2,500	\$0	7,500	D	

Explanation of Responses:

By: M. Gay Mather For: David 03/15/2004 D. Harrison

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.