

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): February 23, 2010

Unit Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

1-9260
(Commission File
Number)

73-1283193
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

7130 South Lewis, Suite 1000, Tulsa, Oklahoma
(Address of principal executive offices)

74136
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (918) 493-7700

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))

Section 2 - Financial Information.

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On February 23, 2010, the Company issued a press release announcing its results of operations for the three and twelve month periods ending December 31, 2009. A copy of that release is furnished with this filing as Exhibit 99.1.

The information included in this report and in exhibit 99.1 shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in the filing.

The press release furnished as an exhibit to this report includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties, as disclosed by the Company from time to time in its filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. As a result of these factors, the Company's actual results may differ materially from those indicated or implied by such forward-looking statements. Except as required by law, we disclaim any obligation to publicly update or revise forward looking statements after the date of this report to conform them to actual results.

Section 9 - Financial Statements and Exhibits.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

99.1 Press release dated February 23, 2010

SIGNATURES

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.

Unit Corporation

Date: February 23, 2010

By: /s/ David T. Merrill
David T. Merrill
Chief Financial Officer
and Treasurer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. **Description**

99.1 Press release dated February 23, 2010

Contact: David T. Merrill
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
(918) 493-7700
www.unitcorp.com

*For Immediate Release...
February 23, 2010*

UNIT CORPORATION REPORTS 2009 FOURTH QUARTER & YEAR-END RESULTS

Tulsa, Oklahoma . . . Unit Corporation (NYSE - UNT) announced today net income of \$28.5 million, or \$0.60 per diluted share, for the three months ended December 31, 2009, compared to a net loss of \$119.8 million, or \$2.57 per diluted share, for the three months ended December 31, 2008. Included in the fourth quarter 2008 results was a non-cash ceiling test write down of \$282.0 million (\$175.5 million after tax, or \$3.76 per diluted share). The ceiling test write down was required to reduce the carrying value of the company's oil and natural gas properties due to significantly lower commodity prices existing at year-end 2008. Excluding the effect of the ceiling test write down, net income for the fourth quarter of 2008 would have been \$55.7 million, or \$1.19 per diluted share (see Non-GAAP Financial Measures below). Total revenues for the fourth quarter of 2009 were \$177.3 million (27% contract drilling, 51% oil and natural gas, and 21% mid-stream). For the fourth quarter of 2008 total revenues were \$291.0 million (53% contract drilling, 37% oil and natural gas, and 10% mid-stream).

For all of 2009, Unit reported a net loss of \$55.5 million, or \$1.18 per diluted share, compared to 2008 net income of \$143.6 million, or \$3.06 per diluted share. Included in the 2009 results is a previously reported \$281.2 million (\$175.1 million after tax, or \$3.70 per diluted share) non-cash ceiling test write down that occurred in the first quarter. Excluding the effect of the ceiling test write down, net income for 2009 would have been \$119.6 million, or \$2.52 per diluted share (see Non-GAAP Financial Measures below). Excluding the effect of the fourth quarter 2008 ceiling test write down discussed above, net income for 2008 would have been \$319.1 million, or \$6.80 per diluted share (see Non-GAAP Financial Measures below). Total revenues for all of 2009 were \$709.9 million (33% contract drilling, 50% oil and natural gas, and 15% mid-stream), compared to \$1,358.1 million (46% contract drilling, 41% oil and natural gas, and 13% mid-stream) for all of 2008.

CONTRACT DRILLING SEGMENT INFORMATION

Average drilling rig utilization for the fourth quarter of 2009 was 36.7 drilling rigs, or 28%, a decrease of 62% from the fourth quarter of 2008, and an increase of 6% from the third quarter of 2009. Contract drilling rig rates for the fourth quarter of 2009 averaged \$14,708 per day, a decrease of 24%, or \$4,622 per day, from the fourth quarter of 2008, and a decrease of 4%, or \$652 per day, from the third quarter of 2009. Average operating margins for the fourth quarter of 2009 were \$5,268 per day (before elimination of intercompany drilling rig profit and bad debt expense of \$0.4 million; see Non-GAAP Financial Measures below) as compared to \$9,525 per day (before elimination of intercompany drilling rig profit and bad debt expense of \$7.9 million; see Non-GAAP Financial Measures below) for the same quarter in 2008, a decrease of 45%. Approximately \$619 per day of the fourth quarter 2009 average operating margin was the result of early termination fees associated with the cancellation of long-term contracts.

For the year ended December 31, 2009, drilling rig utilization averaged 30%, or 38.9 drilling rigs, as compared to 79%, or 103.1 drilling rigs, during 2008, a decrease of 62%. 2009 average operating margins were \$6,894 per day (before elimination of intercompany drilling rig profit and bad debt expense of \$1.5 million; see Non-GAAP Financial Measures below) as compared to \$8,987 per day (before elimination of intercompany drilling rig profit and bad debt expense of \$29.4 million for 2008; see Non-GAAP Financial Measures below), a decrease of 23%. Approximately \$428 per day of the 2009 average operating margin was the result of early termination fees associated with the cancellation of long-term contracts.

Currently, Unit has 128 drilling rigs of which 62 are under contract for work. Contracts with terms ranging from six months to two years in length are in place for 26 of the 62 drilling rigs under contract for work. Of the 128 drilling rigs, five are subject to purchase and sales agreements to be sold to an unaffiliated third party over the next six months. None of the 62 drilling rigs that are under work contracts is included in the drilling rigs to be sold. The following table illustrates this segment's drilling rig count at the end of each period and its average utilization rate during the period:

	4 th Qtr 09	3 rd Qtr 09	2 nd Qtr 09	1 st Qtr 09	4 th Qtr 08	3 rd Qtr 08	2 nd Qtr 08	1 st Qtr 08	4 th Qtr 07
Rigs	130	130	131	131	132	131	131	129	129
Utilization	28%	26%	24%	40%	74%	85%	80%	78%	80%

Larry Pinkston, Unit's Chief Executive Officer and President, said: "Dayrates continued to be negatively impacted by low commodity prices and the expiration of long-term contracts. We have, however, experienced an increase in the demand for our drilling rigs and are receiving increases in dayrates on rigs focused on horizontal drilling activity. Recently, we announced the sale of eight of our idle mechanical drilling rigs to an unaffiliated third party. These rigs range in horsepower from 800 to 1,000. The closing of the sale of three of these rigs occurred this month bringing our total rig fleet to 128. Three more are scheduled to close during the remaining part of the first quarter of 2010 with the last transaction for the remaining two rigs anticipated to close during the second quarter of 2010. Total proceeds from the sale of all of these drilling rigs will be \$23.9 million, resulting in an estimated gain of \$6.1 million. The proceeds will be used to refurbish and upgrade certain rigs in our existing fleet that we intend to target toward horizontal drilling activity. We recently placed into service in our Rocky Mountain division a 1,500 horsepower, diesel-electric drilling rig that previously had been placed on hold during 2009 by our customer. At the completion of the sale of the rigs and with the additional rig recently placed into service, our drilling rig fleet will total 123."

OIL AND NATURAL GAS SEGMENT INFORMATION

- Completed 95 gross wells during 2009 with a success rate of 94%.
- Approximately 63% of anticipated natural gas production and 59% of anticipated crude oil production is hedged for 2010.
- Plan to participate in the drilling of 175 wells during 2010 with preliminary production guidance of 66.0 to 67.0 Bcfe.

Fourth quarter 2009 production was 295,000 barrels of oil, in comparison to 318,000 barrels of oil in the fourth quarter of 2008, a 7% decrease. Natural gas liquids (NGLs) production during the fourth quarter of 2009 was 346,000 barrels in comparison to 427,000 barrels in the fourth quarter of 2008, a 19% decrease. Fourth quarter 2009 natural gas production decreased 15% to 10.5 billion cubic feet (Bcf) from 12.3 Bcf during the comparable quarter of 2008. Fourth quarter 2009 equivalent production totaled 14.3 Bcfe, a 15% decrease over the fourth quarter 2008. Total production for 2009 was 60.7 Bcfe, a decrease of 4% over the 63.4 Bcfe produced during 2008.

Unit's average natural gas price for the fourth quarter of 2009 increased 4% to \$5.77 per thousand cubic feet (Mcf) as compared to \$5.55 per Mcf for the fourth quarter of 2008. Unit's average oil price for the fourth quarter of 2009 was \$61.57 per barrel compared to \$77.71 per barrel for the fourth quarter of 2008, a 21% decrease, and Unit's average NGLs price for the fourth quarter of 2009 was \$26.02 per barrel compared to \$26.17 per barrel for the fourth quarter of 2008, a 1% decrease. For 2009, Unit's average natural gas price decreased 27% to \$5.59 per Mcf as compared to \$7.62 per Mcf for 2008. Unit's average oil price for 2009 was \$56.33 per barrel compared to \$93.87 per barrel during 2008, a 40% decrease. Unit's average NGLs price for 2009 was \$22.81 per barrel compared to \$47.42 per barrel during 2008, a 52% decrease.

For 2010, approximately 63% of the company's anticipated average daily natural gas production is hedged and 59% of its anticipated daily oil production is hedged. The natural gas production is hedged under swap contracts at a comparable average NYMEX price of \$6.95. The average basis differentials for the swaps are (\$0.66). Of the oil hedges, 60% are under swap contracts at an average price of \$61.36 and 40% are under a collar contract with a floor of \$67.50 and a ceiling of \$81.53.

The following table illustrates this segment's production and certain results for the periods indicated:

	4 th Qtr 09	3 rd Qtr 09	2 nd Qtr 09	1 st Qtr 09	4 th Qtr 08	3 rd Qtr 08	2 nd Qtr 08	1 st Qtr 08	4 th Qtr 07
Production, Bcfe	14.3	14.7	15.4	16.3	16.8	15.9	16.0	14.7	14.7
Realized Price, Mcfe (1)	\$6.12	\$5.92	\$5.75	\$5.48	\$6.21	\$9.49	\$10.19	\$8.72	\$7.66
Wells Drilled (gross)	37	21	16	21	67	82	72	57	81
Success Rate	92%	90%	100%	90%	90%	89%	90%	86%	90%

(1) Realized price includes oil, natural gas liquids, natural gas and associated hedges.

During 2009, Unit participated in the drilling of 95 wells, of which 89 were completed as producing wells for a success rate of 94% in comparison to the completion of 278 wells with an 88% success rate during 2008.

Unit's exploration and production segment plans to increase activity in several of its core and emerging operating areas. In the Granite Wash play, located in the Texas Panhandle and western Oklahoma, the company owns approximately 95,000 gross and 38,000 net acres. During 2009 we drilled and operated 13 vertical wells and one horizontal well in the Texas Panhandle. The vertical wells had an average working interest of 66% and estimated gross reserves of 1.8 Bcfe per well at an average gross completed well cost of \$2.3 million. We have a 70% working interest in the horizontal well which averaged 4.2 MMcf per day of natural gas, 500 barrels of oil per day and 600 barrels of NGLs per day, or 10.8 MMcfe per day, over the initial 30 day flow period beginning in late December 2009. The well was drilled with a 4,000' lateral that was fracture stimulated in 11 stages utilizing approximately 48,000 barrels of water and 1,000,000 pounds of sand. Estimated ultimate gross reserves are 6.0 to 8.0 Bcfe at an approximate gross completed well cost of \$3.8 million. We drilled our first horizontal Granite Wash well in late 2008 which had a 2,400' lateral and was fracture stimulated in six stages utilizing 16,000 barrels of water and 500,000 pounds of sand. The highest 30 day flow rate achieved from the well was 5.5 MMcfe per day and the well is currently producing 1.8 MMcfe per day. For 2010, the company plans to participate in approximately 9 gross (4 net) vertical wells and 31 gross (14 net) horizontal wells at a total net cost to the company of approximately \$70 million. The Segno Wilcox play, located in Polk, Tyler and Hardin Counties, Texas, continues to grow. During 2009, we completed eight wells with an average working interest of 86% at a 75% success rate. The average gross completed well cost was \$2.7 million per well with estimated gross reserves of approximately 3.0 Bcfe per well. The Wing #3 (100% working interest) was drilled in the fourth quarter of 2009 and has been selling an average of 5.5 MMcfe per day of natural gas and 125 barrels of oil per day, or 6.3 MMcfe per day, over a 31 day period beginning in late December 2009. We estimate reserves on this well between 15.0 to 20.0 Bcfe. We have expanded our Segno prospect area to the south by entering into a joint exploration agreement with an undisclosed third party for the use of a proprietary 3-D seismic survey covering approximately 151 square miles. By drilling and operating certain wells, we will earn an interest in (i) the wells, (ii) oil and gas leases covering approximately 29,000 gross acres and (iii) a license to the 3-D data. For 2010, Unit plans to drill 23 gross (17.5 net) wells at an approximate net cost of \$48 million. In the Haynesville Shale play of East Texas, Unit owns 16,204 gross acres and 11,302 net acres in Shelby County and 20,000 gross and 8,700 net acres in Harrison County. During 2010, the company plans to participate in five horizontal wells and two vertical wells at an approximate total net cost to the company of \$31 million. In the Marcellus Shale play, Unit owns 197,000 gross and 49,500 net acres, mainly in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. During 2009, Unit participated in three vertical wells and two horizontal wells at a total net cost of \$7.3 million. One horizontal well is in the early stages of flowing back after fracture stimulation and the second horizontal well is scheduled to be fracture stimulated in the second quarter of 2010. Any wells drilled in 2010 will be determined pending the results of the two horizontal wells.

Pinkston said: "Our exploration and production segment had a challenging year in 2009. We reduced our drilling activity substantially during the first half of the year while commodity prices were decreasing. During the second half of the year, this segment began to increase its drilling activity as the cost to drill wells became more economical. We recently announced our total proved reserves at December 31, 2009 were 577.0 Bcfe of natural gas, a 1% increase over our 2008 total proved reserves. On a debt-adjusted per share basis, December 31, 2009 total proved reserves increased 10% over 2008 total proved reserves. New SEC rules for measuring reserves, including the method of determining year-end prices, primarily contributed to the negative revisions to our reserves of 38 Bcfe. Our production replacement for 2009 was 175%, excluding the negative revisions, or 113% when those revisions are taken into account. During 2010, we plan to participate in the drilling of 175 wells, an 84% increase over 2009. Our preliminary annual production guidance for 2010 is approximately 66.0 to 67.0 Bcfe, an increase of 9% to 10% over 2009."

MID-STREAM SEGMENT INFORMATION

- Increased 2009 processing volumes per day and liquids sold volumes per day by 12% and 24%, respectively.
- 37 new wells connected to existing systems during 2009.

Fourth quarter of 2009 processing volumes of 77,501 MMBtu per day and liquids sold volumes of 263,668 gallons per day increased 7% and 34%, respectively, over the fourth quarter of 2008. Fourth quarter 2009 gathering volumes were 177,145 MMBtu per day, a 6% decrease over fourth quarter of 2008. Operating profit (as defined in the Selected Financial and Operational Highlights) for the fourth quarter was \$9.0 million, an increase of \$2.8 million from the third quarter of 2009, due primarily to increased liquids prices and increases in liquids sold and processed volumes, which resulted in increased processing margins.

For 2009, processing volumes of 75,908 MMBtu per day and liquids sold volumes of 243,492 gallons per day increased 12% and 24%, respectively, from 2008. Gathering volumes for 2009 were 183,989 MMBtu per day, a 7% decrease from 2008.

The following table illustrates certain results from this segment's operations for the periods indicated:

	4 th Qtr 09	3 rd Qtr 09	2 nd Qtr 09	1 st Qtr 09	4 th Qtr 08	3 rd Qtr 08	2 nd Qtr 08	1 st Qtr 08	4 th Qtr 07
Gas gathered MMBtu/day	177,145	179,047	187,666	192,320	187,585	195,914	205,397	200,697	212,786
Gas processed MMBtu/day	77,501	77,923	75,481	72,650	72,491	71,260	67,545	59,797	59,009
Liquids sold Gallons/day	263,668	251,830	239,121	218,762	197,428	199,805	202,130	183,924	169,897

Unit's mid-stream segment operates three natural gas treatment plants, owns eight processing plants, 33 active gathering systems and 839 miles of pipeline.

Pinkston said: "During 2009, our mid-stream segment connected 37 new wells to existing systems and added an additional 69 miles of pipeline. We are pleased with the volume growth and results that this segment has been able to achieve during a year of reduced drilling activity by exploration and production companies. We are optimistic about the growth opportunities of our mid-stream operations, despite the weak economy."

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Unit ended the year with long-term debt of \$30.0 million and a debt to capitalization ratio of 2%. Under the company's credit facility, the amount available to be borrowed is the lesser of the amount elected by the company as the commitment amount (currently \$325 million) or the value of the borrowing base as determined by the lenders under the credit facility, but not to exceed the maximum credit facility amount of \$400 million. As of October 1, 2009, Unit's borrowing base was reaffirmed by its lenders at \$475 million. The company recently increased its 2010 capital expenditures budget for all its business segments to \$494 million from \$467, as previously announced. The \$27 million increase is for its contract drilling segment, primarily associated with using the proceeds from the sale of the previously mentioned drilling rigs to accelerate the refurbishment and upgrading of existing rigs in its fleet targeted toward horizontal drilling activities.

MANAGEMENT COMMENT

Larry Pinkston said: "We are pleased with our 2009 fourth quarter and year end results. 2009 was a challenging year as the weak economy continued to persist. Our long-term debt at the end of the year was \$30.0 million, \$169.5 million less than at year end 2008. The reduction in our debt was primarily funded from lower capital spending relative to our cash flow, supported by a strong commodity hedge position, along with proceeds from the sale of certain Appalachia acreage and related collection of third party costs. An increase in demand for drilling activity by exploration and production companies has materialized during the fourth quarter and we are optimistic about what 2010 holds for Unit. We believe that we are well positioned to take advantage of any growth opportunities that prove economic to the company."

WEBCAST

Unit will webcast its fourth quarter and year end earnings conference call live over the Internet on February 23, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. Central Time (11:00 a.m. Eastern). To listen to the live call, please go to www.unitcorp.com at least fifteen minutes prior to the start of the call to download and install any necessary audio software. For those who are not available to listen to the live webcast, a replay will be available shortly after the call and will remain on the site for twelve months.

Unit Corporation is a Tulsa-based, publicly held energy company engaged through its subsidiaries in oil and gas exploration, production, contract drilling and gas gathering and processing. Unit's Common Stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol UNT. For more information about Unit Corporation, visit its website at <http://www.unitcorp.com>.

This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the private Securities Litigation Reform Act. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, included in this release that address activities, events or developments that the Company expects or anticipates will or may occur in the future are forward-looking statements. A number of risks and uncertainties could cause actual results to differ materially from these statements, including the impact that the current decline in wells being drilled will have on production and drilling rig utilization, productive capabilities of the Company's wells, future demand for oil and natural gas, future drilling rig utilization and dayrates, projected growth of the Company's oil and natural gas production, oil and gas reserve information, as well as the ability to meet its future reserve replacement goals, anticipated gas gathering and processing rates and throughput volumes, the prospective capabilities of the reserves associated with the Company's inventory of future drilling sites, anticipated oil and natural gas prices, the number of wells to be drilled by the Company's oil and natural gas segment, development, operational, implementation and opportunity risks, possibility of future growth opportunities, and other factors described from time to time in the Company's publicly available SEC reports. The Company assumes no obligation to update publicly such forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Unit Corporation
Selected Financial and Operations Highlights
(In thousands except per share and operations data)

	Three Months Ended		Twelve Months Ended	
	December 31,		December 31,	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
Statement of Income:				
Revenues:				
Contract drilling	\$ 47,932	\$ 155,208	\$ 236,315	\$ 622,727
Oil and natural gas	90,480	107,354	357,879	553,998
Gas gathering and processing	37,024	28,628	108,628	181,730
Other	1,896	(169)	7,076	(362)
Total revenues	177,332	291,021	709,898	1,358,093
Expenses:				
Contract drilling:				
Operating costs	30,515	78,366	140,080	312,907
Depreciation	11,523	18,521	45,326	69,841
Oil and natural gas:				
Operating costs	24,888	25,886	87,734	116,239
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	24,881	44,794	114,681	159,550
Impairment of oil and natural gas properties	---	281,966	281,241	281,966
Gas gathering and processing:				
Operating costs	28,020	24,849	87,908	150,466
Depreciation and amortization	3,938	3,890	16,104	14,822
General and administrative	6,923	5,240	24,011	25,419
Interest, net	---	142	539	1,304
Total expenses	130,688	483,654	797,624	1,132,514
Income (Loss) Before Income Taxes	46,644	(192,633)	(87,726)	225,579
Income Tax Expense (Benefit):				
Current	(10,041)	(284)	(223)	40,877
Deferred	28,172	(72,501)	(32,003)	41,077
Total income taxes	18,131	(72,785)	(32,226)	81,954
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 28,513	\$ (119,848)	\$ (55,500)	\$ 143,625
Net Income (Loss) per Common Share:				
Basic	\$ 0.61	\$ (2.57)	\$ (1.18)	\$ 3.08
Diluted	\$ 0.60	\$ (2.57)	\$ (1.18)	\$ 3.06
Weighted Average Common Shares Outstanding:				
Basic	47,020	46,639	46,990	46,586
Diluted	47,503	46,639	46,990	46,909

