

HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP INC  
Form 8-K  
September 19, 2006

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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report

(Date of earliest event reported): September 18, 2006

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**Hudson Highland Group, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction

of incorporation)

**0-50129**  
(Commission File Number)

**59-3547281**  
(IRS Employer

Identification No.)

**622 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10017**

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

**(212) 351-7300**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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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:

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- .. 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))
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Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On September 18, 2006, Hudson Highland Group, Inc. (the Company) entered into a Purchase Agreement (the Agreement) among the Company, Hudson Highland Group, Inc., Highland Partners Co (Canada), Highland Partners (Aust) Pty Ltd, and Highland Partners Limited, and Heidrick & Struggles International, Inc., Heidrick & Struggles Canada, Inc., and Heidrick & Struggles Australia, Ltd. (collectively, Heidrick). Pursuant to the Agreement, the Company agreed to sell its Highland Partners executive search business (Highland) to Heidrick (the Sale) for a maximum of \$51.6 million in cash:

\$36.6 million payable at closing, subject to a post-closing net working capital adjustment, of which the company will pay \$9.5 million to certain partners of Highland in consideration for providing assistance in completing the Sale, entering into an employment agreement with Heidrick and providing the Company a general release from liability, which result in net proceeds at closing of \$27.1 million; and

up to \$15.0 million subject to the achievement by Highland of certain future revenue metrics in 2007 and 2008.

The Agreement contains customary indemnification obligations of the Company and generally provides that the Company will retain pre-closing liabilities of Highland other than those reflected on Highland's transferring balance sheet and contractual obligations. The Company expects to complete the Sale in the fourth quarter of 2006, subject to a minimum number of Highland consultants agreeing to join Heidrick as well as customary closing conditions. Copies of the Agreement and a press release the Company issued on September 18, 2006 announcing the entry into the Agreement are filed herewith as Exhibits 10.1 and 99.1, respectively, and are incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

- (a) Not applicable.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) Exhibits. The following exhibits are being filed herewith:

- 10.1 Purchase Agreement, dated as of September 18, 2006, among Hudson Highland Group, Inc., Highland Partners Co (Canada), Highland Partners (Aust) Pty Ltd, and Highland Partners Limited, and Heidrick & Struggles International, Inc., Heidrick & Struggles Canada, Inc., and Heidrick & Struggles Australia, Ltd. [The schedules and exhibits to this document are not being filed herewith. Hudson Highland Group, Inc. agrees to furnish supplementally a copy of any such schedule or exhibit to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon request.]
- 99.1 Press Release of Hudson Highland Group, Inc. issued on September 18, 2006

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.

Date: September 18, 2006

HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.

By: /s/ MARY JANE RAYMOND  
Mary Jane Raymond  
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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HUDSON HIGHLAND GROUP, INC.

Exhibit Index to Current Report on Form 8-K

Exhibit  
Number

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