

CATERPILLAR INC  
Form 8-K  
October 21, 2004

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): **October 21, 2004**

**CATERPILLAR INC.**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

**1-768**  
(Commission File Number)

**37-0602744**  
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**100 NE Adams Street, Peoria, Illinois**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**61629**  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(309) 675-1000**

Former name or former address, if changed since last report: **N/A**

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 230.425)
- 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 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition and Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.**

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On October 21, 2004, Caterpillar Inc. issued a press release reporting financial results for the quarter ended September 30, 2004 (furnished hereunder as Exhibit 99.1).

The information contained in this Current Report shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be incorporated by reference into a filing under the Securities Act of 1933, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

The furnishing of these materials is not intended to constitute a representation that such furnishing is required by Regulation FD or that the materials include material investor information that is not otherwise publicly available. In addition, the Registrant does not assume any obligation to update such information in the future.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

|     |           |   |
|-----|-----------|---|
| (c) | Exhibits: |   |
|     | 99.1      | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Results Press Release dated October 21, 2004 and Safe Harbor Statement. |

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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 thereunto duly authorized.

**CATERPILLAR INC.**

October 21, 2004

By:

/s/ James B. Buda  
James B. Buda  
Vice President