

STEWART & STEVENSON SERVICES INC
Form 11-K
June 29, 2005

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

(Mark One)

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**ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (NO FEE REQUIRED)**

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004

OR

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**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (NO FEE
REQUIRED)**

For the transition period from to

Commission File Number 1-8514

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:

STEWART & STEVENSON

401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office:

Stewart & Stevenson Services, Inc.

2707 North Loop West

Houston, Texas 77008

Stewart & Stevenson 401(k) Savings Plan

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule

December 31, 2004 and 2003, and for the year ended December 31, 2004

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Administrative Committee

Stewart & Stevenson 401(k) Savings Plan

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the Stewart & Stevenson 401(k) Savings Plan as of December 31, 2004 and 2003, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2004. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. We were not engaged to perform an audit of the Plan's internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan at December 31, 2004 and 2003, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2004, in conformity U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audits were performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2004, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. This supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan's management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audits of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Houston, Texas
June 17, 2005

Stewart & Stevenson 401(k) Savings Plan

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31,	
	2004	2003
Assets		
Cash	\$ 10,689	\$ 12,288
Receivables:		
Employer contributions	93,935	192,157
Participant contributions	280,400	577,000
Accrued income	30,164	29,474
Pending sale	1,614	9,982
Total receivables	406,113	808,613
Investments	83,473,529	72,298,310
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 83,890,331	\$ 73,119,211

See accompanying notes.

Stewart & Stevenson 401(k) Savings Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

Year ended December 31, 2004

Additions:	
Employer contributions	\$ 2,567,880
Participant contributions	8,240,305
Rollover contributions	443,365
Investment income	2,210,884
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	6,402,203
Total additions	19,864,637
Deductions:	
Benefit payments	9,091,437
Administrative expenses	2,080
Total deductions	9,093,517
Net increase	10,771,120
Net assets available for benefits:	
Beginning of year	73,119,211
End of year	\$ 83,890,331

See accompanying notes.

Stewart & Stevenson 401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2004

1. Description of Plan

General

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The Stewart & Stevenson 401(k) Savings Plan (the Plan) is a defined contribution plan established effective January 1, 1994, for the benefit of eligible employees of Stewart & Stevenson, Inc., and certain adopting subsidiaries (collectively, the Company) who have completed at least thirty days of service. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

The following description of the Plan is provided for general information only. Participants should refer to the *Summary Plan Description* for a more complete description of the Plan s provisions, a copy of which is available from the Company.

Contributions

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Eligible employees are automatically enrolled for a 1% participant contribution of their eligible compensation unless otherwise elected. Participants may elect to make an additional contribution of from 1% to 80% of their eligible compensation subject to certain limitations, as defined by the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). The first 1% of participant contributions is matched dollar for dollar (Basic Match) by the Company, and participant contributions in excess of 1% of compensation, but no more than 6%, are matched at 25% (Supplemental Match) by the Company. (See Note 5.) Participants may also make rollover contributions to the Plan representing distributions from other qualified plans. Participants may direct the investment of all contributions into one or more of the investment options offered by the Plan.

Vesting

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Participants are fully vested in their participant contributions, rollovers, Basic Match contributions, and Supplemental Match contributions made after June 30, 2003, and the related earnings that have been credited to their accounts. Supplemental Match contributions made prior to July 1, 2003, and related earnings vest at a rate of 20% per year with full vesting after five years of service, or upon the attainment of age 65, or upon death or disability. Forfeitures of nonvested amounts are used to reduce future Supplemental Match contributions or to pay administrative expenses of the Plan.

Benefit Payments

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Benefits are payable to participants or to a designated beneficiary in the form of a lump-sum payment in the event of their retirement, death, or termination of employment. In limited circumstances, account withdrawals may be made upon the attainment of age 59½ or in the event of financial hardship as defined in the Plan.

Participant Loans

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Participants may borrow from their accounts a minimum of \$1,000, up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. The loan term may not exceed five years, except for loans used for the purchase of a principal residence, which may be repaid over a longer period of time. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions.

Administrative Expenses

The Company pays certain administrative expenses of the Plan.

Plan Termination

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Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions set forth in ERISA. In the event of plan termination, participants will receive their vested account balance.

2. Summary of Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

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The accompanying financial statements of the Plan have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Benefit payments are recorded when paid.

Use of Estimates

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The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes and schedule. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

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Investments in mutual funds and common stock are stated at fair value, based on quotations obtained from national security exchanges. The investment in the common collective trust fund is stated at fair value as determined by the issuer, based on the fair value of the underlying investments.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Risks and Uncertainties

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The Plan provides for various investments in a common collective trust fund, mutual funds, and common stock. Investment securities, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits and participant account balances.

3. Investments

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Individual investments that represent 5% or more of the Plan's net assets at December 31, 2004 or 2003, are as follows:

	2004	December 31	2003
AIM Premier Equity Fund	\$ 7,467,215	\$	9,461,953
American Balanced Fund	8,288,806		7,385,298
Eaton Vance Large-Cap Value Fund	6,290,217		4,730,388
Franklin Small Mid-Cap Growth Fund	4,858,430		4,291,663
Merrill Lynch International Value Fund	6,710,973		4,878,918
Merrill Lynch Corporate Bond Fund, Inc. Intermediate Term	10,089,570		8,917,923
Merrill Lynch Global Allocation Fund, Inc.	10,423,726		9,481,545
Merrill Lynch Retirement Preservation Trust	9,230,788		8,779,535

During 2004, the Plan's investments (including investments bought, sold, and held during the year) appreciated in value as follows:

Common stock	\$	1,278,313
Mutual funds		5,123,890
	\$	6,402,203

4. Income Tax Status

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The Plan has received a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) dated February 17, 2004, stating that the Plan is qualified under Section 401(a) of the IRC and, therefore, the related trust is exempt from taxation. Subsequent to this determination by the IRS, the Plan was amended. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain its qualification. The Plan administrator believes the Plan is being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believes that the Plan, as amended, is qualified and the related trust is tax-exempt.

5. Subsequent Events

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Effective January 1, 2005, the Plan was amended for eligible employees to become participants in the Plan after completing sixty days of participation service. Also effective January 1, 2005, the Plan was amended to replace the Basic and Supplemental Match and provide for Company matching contributions of 50% on participant contributions up to 6% of their eligible compensation, but excluding participant catch-up contributions.

The Plan was amended effective March 28, 2005, to reduce the involuntary cash-out provision under the Plan to \$1,000 (including any rollover account).

Supplemental Schedule

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Stewart & Stevenson 401(k) Savings Plan

Schedule H, Line 4(i) Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

EIN: 74-1051605 PN: 002

December 31, 2004

Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	Description of Investment	Current Value
*Stewart & Stevenson Services, Inc.	198,580 shares of common stock	\$ 4,017,269
AIM Family of Funds	AIM Premier Equity Fund	7,467,215
American Funds Group	American Balanced Fund	8,288,806
Franklin Investments	Franklin Small Mid-Cap Growth Fund	4,858,430
Massachusetts Financial Services	Massachusetts Investors Trust	4,188,752
*Merrill Lynch	Merrill Lynch Corporate Bond Fund, Inc. Intermediate Term	10,089,570
*Merrill Lynch	Merrill Lynch Global Allocation Fund, Inc.	10,423,726
*Merrill Lynch	Merrill Lynch Retirement Preservation Trust	9,230,788
*Merrill Lynch	Merrill Lynch International Value Fund	6,710,973
*Merrill Lynch	Merrill Lynch S&P 500 Index Fund	314,417
Eaton Vance	Eaton Vance Large-Cap Value Fund	6,290,217
Lord Abbett	Lord Abbett Small-Cap Value Fund	3,500,567
MFS	MFS Core Growth Fund	3,873,217
AIM Family of Funds	AIM Small-Cap Growth Fund	1,095,710
*Participant loans	Various maturities and interest rates ranging from 5% to 10.5%	3,123,872
		\$ 83,473,529

*Party-in-interest.

SIGNATURES

The Plan. Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Stewart & Stevenson 401(k) Savings Plan Administrative Committee has duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

STEWART & STEVENSON 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN ADMINISTRATIVE
COMMITTEE

Date: June 27, 2005

/s/ John B. Simmons
John B. Simmons
Chairman

/s/ Scott Biar
Scott Biar
Member

/s/ Bill Moll
Bill Moll
Member

/s/ Steve Hines
Steve Hines
Member

/s/ Lesley Roth
Lesley Roth
Member

INDEX TO EXHIBIT

Exhibit No.	Description
23.1	Consent of independent registered public accounting firm

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