

GEN PROBE INC
Form 8-K
May 20, 2005

**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): **May 18, 2005**

Gen-Probe Incorporated

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

0-49834
(Commission File Number)

33-0044608
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

**10210 Genetic Center Drive
San Diego, CA 92121**
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(858) 410-8000
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

N/A
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

- 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 1 Registrant's Business and Operations

Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On May 18, 2005, upon recommendation of the Compensation Committee of Gen-Probe Incorporated (the Company), the Board of Directors approved the adoption of a Deferred Compensation Plan (the Plan), to be effective as of June 30, 2005. The Plan allows certain highly compensated management, key employees and directors of the Company to defer up to 80% of annual base salary or director fees and up to 100% of annual bonus compensation. Deferred amounts are credited with gains and losses based on the performance of deemed investment options selected by a committee appointed by the Board of Directors to administer the Plan. The Plan also allows for discretionary contributions to be made by the Company. Participants may receive distributions upon (i) election during an appropriate election period, (ii) the occurrence of unforeseeable financial emergencies, (iii) termination of employment, (iv) death, (v) disability, or (vi) a change in control of the Company. Key employees must wait six months following termination of employment to receive distributions. The Plan is subject to Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code).

The Company may terminate the Plan at any time with respect to participants providing services to the Company. Upon termination of the Plan, participants will be paid out in accordance with their prior distribution elections and otherwise in accordance with the Plan. Upon and for twelve (12) months following a change of control, the Company has the right to terminate the Plan and, notwithstanding any elections made by participants, to pay out all benefits in a lump sum, subject to the provisions of the Code.

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.

Gen-Probe Incorporated

By: /s/ R. William Bowen

R. William Bowen
Vice President and General Counsel

Date: May 20, 2005