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TORCH OFFSHORE INC  
Form 8-K  
May 13, 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):  
May 13, 2004 (May 12, 2004)

TORCH OFFSHORE, INC.  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

000-32855  
(Commission File Number)

Delaware  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

74-2982117  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

401 Whitney Avenue, Suite 400  
Gretna, Louisiana  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

70056-2596  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code:  
(504) 367-7030

ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS.

On May 12, 2004, Torch Offshore, Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release announcing that the Company has signed a contract with Marathon E.G. Production Limited to perform work in Malabo, Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea. The contract is valued at over \$12.0 million and is scheduled to commence immediately. A copy of this press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this report and incorporated by reference herein.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, PROFORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND EXHIBITS.

- (a) Not applicable.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Exhibits.

The following exhibits are filed herewith:

Exhibit No.	Description
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99.1 Torch Offshore, Inc. Press Release, dated  
May 12, 2004.

SIGNATURE

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.

TORCH OFFSHORE, INC.

By: /s/ ROBERT E. FULTON

Date: May 13, 2004

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Robert E. Fulton  
Chief Financial Officer

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit No. -----	Description -----
99.1	Torch Offshore, Inc. Press Release, dated May 12, 2004.

EXHIBIT 99.1

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release to:  
Analysts, Financial Community, Media  
Contact: Bob Fulton (1) 504-367-7030  
Bradley Lowe (1) 504-367-7030

Torch Offshore Announces Contract for Alba Project in Africa  
with Marathon

New Orleans, Louisiana USA, May 12, 2004

Torch Offshore, Inc. (NASDAQ: TORC) (the "Company") announced today it has signed a contract with Marathon E.G. Production Limited ("Marathon") to perform the installation of five pipelines and an umbilical for the export facility of the Marathon gas plant extension in Malabo, Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea. The contract is valued at over \$12.0 million and is scheduled to commence immediately with an approximate 60-day operation on site with completion scheduled for October 2004. The Company will utilize a marine spread made up of the Midnight Brave to perform the pipelay and umbilical installation and the Midnight Carrier as a support vessel.

Lyle G. Stockstill, Torch Offshore, Inc. Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, commented, "The project award from Marathon is a match to our strategy to develop our pipelay business internationally. We have identified other potential projects in West Africa, and will continue to bid on a selected manner."

Established in 1978, Torch Offshore, Inc. is involved in offshore pipeline installation and subsea construction for

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the oil and natural gas industry. Torch Offshore, Inc. is expanding beyond its established shallow water niche market in order to serve the industry's worldwide growing needs in the deep waters.

Any statements made in this news release, other than those of historical fact, about an action, event or development, which the Company hopes, expects, believes or anticipates may or will occur in the future, are forward-looking statements under the Private Securities Litigation Act of 1995. The forward-looking statements in this news release include statements about the capabilities of the Company's vessels and the scope of work and contract value related to the Marathon Alba project. Such statements are subject to various assumptions, risks and uncertainties, which are specifically described in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, as well as other factors that may not be within the Company's control, including, specifically, oil and natural gas commodity prices, weather conditions and offshore construction activity levels. Although the Company believes its expectations are based on reasonable assumptions, it gives no assurance that the Company's assumptions and projections will prove to be correct. Actual results may differ materially from those projected.

PR 04-011

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