

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM 8-K

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FILER

APPLERA CORP

CIK: **77551** | IRS No.: **061534213** | State of Incorporation: **DE** | Fiscal Year End: **0630**
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**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

December 19, 2007

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

APPLERA CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-04389
(Commission
File Number)

06-1534213
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

**301 Merritt 7
Norwalk, Connecticut**
(Address of principal executive offices)

06851
(Zip Code)

(203) 840-2000
(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 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 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 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

(c) On December 19, 2007, Applera Corporation (the “Company”) announced the promotion of Mark P. Stevenson, formerly a Vice President of the Company and Executive Vice President of the Company’s Applied Biosystems Group, to the position of Senior Vice President of the Company and President and Chief Operating Officer of the Applied Biosystems Group. Mr. Stevenson’s promotion was effective as of December 19, 2007.

In connection with his promotion, Mr. Stevenson’s annual base salary was increased to \$600,000, and he became eligible to receive an annual cash bonus under the Company’s Incentive Compensation Program targeted at 100% of his base salary. Mr. Stevenson is a member of the Company’s Management Executive Committee and is entitled to the perquisites made available to members of that committee. He is also a participant in the Company’s Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan. These benefits were not affected by his promotion.

Attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated by reference into this Item 5.02 is the text of the Company’s December 19, 2007, press release announcing the promotion of Mr. Stevenson.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.***(d) Exhibits.***

The following exhibits are filed with this Report:

<i>Exhibit No.</i>	<i>Description</i>
99.1	Press Release issued December 19, 2007, with respect to the promotion of Mark P. Stevenson.

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.

APPLERA CORPORATION

By: /s/ Thomas P. Livingston

Thomas P. Livingston
Vice President and Secretary

Dated: December 20, 2007

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. ***Description***

99.1 Press Release issued December 19, 2007, with respect to the promotion of Mark P. Stevenson.

News Release



Investors

Peter Dworkin

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APPLIED BIOSYSTEMS PROMOTES MARK STEVENSON TO PRESIDENT AND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

FOSTER CITY, CA, December 19, 2007 – Applera Corporation today named Mark P. Stevenson president and chief operating officer of its Applied Biosystems Group (NYSE: ABI) and a senior vice president of the corporation. Mr. Stevenson has been executive vice president of Applied Biosystems since July 2007 and has been with the company since 1998.

“This decision completes the Applied Biosystems management transition that began more than a year ago,” said Tony L. White, chairman, president, and CEO of Applera, who has served as interim president of Applied Biosystems since October 2006. “Mark is a strong leader and strategic thinker with tremendous knowledge of Applied Biosystems and the life science tools industry. His experience in a variety of sales, marketing and general management roles in Europe, Japan, and the United States and his understanding of the market make him particularly qualified to manage all day-to-day operations at Applied Biosystems.”

Mr. Stevenson joined Applied Biosystems Europe in 1998 after previous positions with other life science companies. He has contributed to the growth of Applied Biosystems in diverse roles including: vice president of molecular biology sales in Europe; president and general manager of Applied Biosystems Japan; founding president of the Applied Markets Division, and president of the Molecular and Cellular Biology (MCB) Division. During his tenure as MCB Division President, he achieved revenue and profit growth from more mature businesses while investing in new growth engines such as molecular biology consumables and next generation sequencing. After his appointment in July 2007 to executive vice president, his responsibilities expanded to include oversight of Europe, Japan, Global Services, and the Applied Markets business. In his new role he now adds the Proteomics and Small Molecule (PSM) Division and the Asia Pacific Region to his portfolio.

“Applied Biosystems has an excellent reputation of providing our customers with innovative tools, a strong history of growth and profitability, and a talented and hardworking group of employees,” said Mr. Stevenson. “Applied Biosystems has exciting times ahead as we pursue multiple growth vectors across technologies, applications, and geographies and improvements in the operational performance of the business.”

About Applera Corporation and Applied Biosystems

Applera Corporation consists of two operating groups. Applied Biosystems serves the life science industry and research community by developing and marketing instrument-based systems, consumables, software, and services. Customers use these tools to analyze nucleic acids (DNA and RNA), small molecules, and proteins to make scientific discoveries and develop new pharmaceuticals. Applied Biosystems' products also serve the needs of some markets outside of life science research, which we refer to as "applied markets," such as the fields of: human identity testing (forensic and paternity testing); biosecurity, which refers to products needed in response to the threat of biological terrorism and other malicious, accidental, and natural biological dangers; and quality and safety testing, such as testing required for food and pharmaceutical manufacturing. Applied Biosystems is headquartered in Foster City, CA, and reported sales of approximately \$2.1 billion during fiscal 2007. Celera is a diagnostics business delivering personalized disease management solutions through a combination of tests and services based on proprietary genetics discovery platforms. The business is developing diagnostic products that predict disease risk and optimize therapy selection and patient outcomes, based on the discovery and validation of novel markers in complex diseases such as cardiovascular disease, breast cancer, and liver and autoimmune diseases. Celera also maintains a strategic alliance with Abbott for the development and commercialization of some of its molecular diagnostic products. Information about Applera Corporation, including reports and other information filed by the company with the Securities and Exchange Commission, is available at <http://www.applera.com>, or by telephoning 800.762.6923. Information about Applied Biosystems is available at <http://www.appliedbiosystems.com>. All information in this press release is as of the date of the release, and Applera does not undertake any duty to update this information unless required by law.

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