STRYKER CORP Form 8-K August 01, 2006

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): July 26, 2006

STRYKER CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Michigan (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) **0-9165** (Commission File Number) **38-1239739** (IRS Employer Identification No.)

2725 Fairfield Road, Kalamazoo, Michigan (Address of principal executive offices) **49002** (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 269.385.2600

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)

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[] 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 5 - CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

ITEM 5.02	DEPARTURE OF DIRECTORS OR PRINCIPAL OFFICERS; ELECTION OF
	DIRECTORS;
	APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

On July 26, 2006, the Board of Directors of Stryker Corporation voted to increase the number of directors to eight and elected Louise L. Francesconi to fill the vacancy created. Ms. Francesconi's committee assignments have not yet been determined.

Ms. Francesconi has been a Vice President of Raytheon Company since November 1999 and President of its Missile Systems business since August 2002. She previously served as General Manager of the Missile Systems business from November 1999.

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.

STRYKER CORPORATION

(Registrant)

August 1, 2006

Date

<u>/s/ THOMAS R. WINKEL</u> Thomas R. Winkel Vice President, Administration and Secretary