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VERITAS DGC INC
Form 8-K
November 28, 2001

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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

DATE OF REPORT (DATE OF EARLIEST EVENT REPORTED): NOVEMBER 26, 2001

VERITAS DGC INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant As Specified In Its Charter)

DELAWARE	001-7427	76-0343152
(State or	(Commission	(I.R.S. Employer
Other Jurisdiction)	File No.)	Identification No.)

10300 TOWN PARK
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77072
(ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES) (ZIP CODE)

832-351-8300
(REGISTRANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER, INCLUDING AREA CODE)

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ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS

On November 26, 2001, Petroleum Geo-Services ASA, a Norwegian public limited liability company ("PGS"), Veritas DGC Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Veritas"), Venus I, a Cayman Islands exempted company and a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of Veritas ("Caymanco"), Venus Holdco Inc., a Delaware corporation and an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Caymanco ("Veritas Holdco"), and Venus Mergerco Inc., a Delaware corporation and a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of Veritas Holdco ("Veritas Merger Sub"), entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger and Exchange Agreement (the "Agreement"), whereby, subject to the conditions stated therein, (i) Caymanco will make an offer (the "Exchange Offer") to issue ordinary shares, par value

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\$0.01 per share, of Caymanco ("Caymanco Shares") in exchange for the issued and outstanding ordinary shares, nominal value NOK 5 per share, of PGS ("PGS Shares") and all issued and outstanding American Depositary Shares representing such PGS Shares ("PGS ADSs"), at an exchange ratio of 0.47 Caymanco Shares for each PGS Share and each PGS ADS; and (ii) immediately following the closing of the Exchange Offer, Veritas Merger Sub will be merged with and into Veritas (the "Merger" and, together with the Exchange Offer, the "Combination"), pursuant to which shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of Veritas ("Veritas Common Stock") will be converted into Caymanco Shares on a one-for-one basis and certain shares that are exchangeable for shares of Veritas Common Stock will become exchangeable for Caymanco Shares. Upon closing of the Combination, PGS and Veritas will become subsidiaries of Caymanco.

The closing of the Combination will occur on the first business day immediately following the day on which all of the conditions to the Combination contained in the Agreement have been fulfilled or waived or on such other date as PGS and Veritas may agree, but in no event prior to April 1, 2001. The closing of the Combination is conditioned upon:

- o the approval of the Merger by the stockholders of Veritas;
- o that number of PGS Shares and PGS ADSs that would represent more than 90% of the PGS Shares outstanding as of the expiration of the Exchange Offer being properly tendered in the Exchange Offer, which percentage may be reduced in certain circumstances described in the Agreement;
- o the receipt of applicable regulatory approvals, including the expiration or termination of the waiting period prescribed by the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976;
- o PGS' having in effect committed financing in the amount of \$430 million;
- o Veritas' having in effect committed financing in the amount of \$235 million;
- o the Caymanco Shares having been authorized for listing on the New York Stock Exchange, subject to official notice of issuance;
- o PGS' having completed certain previously announced asset disposition efforts;
- o PGS' having entered into replacement employment agreements with certain of its active employees; and
- o other customary conditions, including the absence of any events or series of events that has had or would have a material adverse effect on Veritas or PGS.

Each of these conditions is more fully described in the Agreement. Under the Agreement, a material adverse effect will be deemed to have occurred and either party may terminate the Agreement if, among other things, (i) the settlement price for the New York Mercantile Exchange ("NYMEX") Natural Gas Futures Contract for delivery 12 months following the month in which the relevant date of determination occurs falls below \$2.25 per MMBtu for 20 consecutive trading days or (ii) the settlement price for the NYMEX Light Sweet Crude Oil Futures Contract for delivery 12 months following the month in which the relevant date of determination occurs falls below \$12.50 per barrel for 20 consecutive trading days.

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The Agreement provides that PGS or Veritas may be required to pay \$7.5 million to reimburse the other party for expenses under certain circumstances relating to competing transactions or a change in the recommendation of the party's board to its shareholders. If, in certain circumstances, a subsequent acquisition transaction is entered into or consummated within 12 months of termination of the Agreement, PGS or Veritas may be required to pay an additional amount of \$12.5 million (\$20 million total) upon consummation of that transaction.

The Agreement is filed herewith as Exhibit 2.1 and is incorporated herein by reference. The text of a joint press release issued by PGS and Veritas is filed herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference. The foregoing description of the Agreement, the Exchange Offer and the Merger, and the other transactions contemplated by the Agreement, is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Agreement.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(c) EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT NO. DESCRIPTION

2.1 Agreement and Plan of Merger and Exchange Agreement, dated as of November 26, 2001, among Petroleum Geo-Services ASA, a Norwegian public limited liability company, Veritas DGC Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Veritas"), Venus I, a Cayman Islands exempted company and a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of Veritas ("Caymanco"), Venus Holdco Inc., a Delaware corporation and an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Caymanco ("Veritas Holdco"), and Venus Mergerco Inc., a Delaware corporation and a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of Veritas Holdco. (and exhibits thereto).

99.1 Joint press release of Veritas DGC Inc. and Petroleum Geo-Services ASA dated November 26, 2001.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

VERITAS DGC INC.
(Registrant)

/s/ TIMOTHY L. WELLS

Timothy L. Wells
President

Date: November 28, 2001

EXHIBIT INDEX

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99.1	Joint press release of Veritas DGC Inc. and Petroleum Geo-Services ASA dated November 26, 2001.