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SERVICEMASTER CO  
Form 8-K  
January 21, 2005

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 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): January 17, 2005

THE SERVICEMASTER COMPANY

-----  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware -----	1-14762 -----	36-3858106 -----
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

3250 Lacey Road, Suite 600, Downers Grove, Illinois -----	60515 -----
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)	(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (630) 663-2000  
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Not Applicable  
(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 (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(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e - 4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e - 4(c))

Item 8.01. Other Events.

On January 21, 2005, The ServiceMaster Company issued a press release, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

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Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

99.1 Press Release issued by The ServiceMaster Company on January 21, 2005.

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SIGNATURES

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

THE SERVICEMASTER COMPANY

Date: January 21, 2005

By: /s/ Jim L. Kaput

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Jim L. Kaput  
Senior Vice President and General Counsel

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description of Exhibit
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99.1	Press Release issued by The ServiceMaster Company on January 21, 2005.

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