

TESLA MOTORS INC  
Form 8-K  
January 06, 2011

**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 5, 2011**

**Tesla Motors, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

(Commission

(IRS Employer

File Number)  
3500 Deer Creek Road

Identification No.)

Palo Alto, California 94304

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(650) 681-5000

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(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):

- .. 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))

**Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

On January 5, 2011, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of Tesla Motors, Inc. (the Company) approved annual base salary increases for officers and employees of the Company as part of its annual performance review, including Jeffrey B. Straubel, the Company's Chief Technology Officer, whose annual base salary was increased from \$205,000 to \$240,000, and Deepak Ahuja, the Company's Chief Financial Officer, whose annual base salary was increased from \$300,000 to \$325,000. The salary increases were approved retroactive to August 1, 2010, consistent with the Company's past practices for annual merit increases.

**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.

**TESLA MOTORS, INC.**

By: /s/ DEEPAK AHUJA  
**Deepak Ahuja**

**Chief Financial Officer**

Date: January 6, 2011