

NATURAL GAS SERVICES GROUP INC
Form S-3
August 14, 2009

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 14, 2009

Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

NATURAL GAS SERVICES GROUP, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Colorado
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

75-2811855
(I.R.S. employer
identification no.)

508 West Wall Street, Suite 550
Midland, Texas 79701
(432) 262-2700

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Stephen C. Taylor, Chief Executive Officer
508 West Wall Street, Suite 550
Midland, Texas 79701
(432) 262-2700

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

The Commission is requested to send copies of all communications to:
David A. Thayer, Esq.

Jones & Keller, P.C.
World Trade Center
1625 Broadway, 16th Floor
Denver, Colorado 80202
Telephone: (303) 573-1600
Facsimile: (303) 573-0769

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: from time to time after this registration statement becomes effective as determined by market conditions and other factors.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer” and “smaller reporting company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company <input type="checkbox"/>
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)			

Calculation of Registration Fee

Title of Securities (1)	Aggregate offering price (2)	Amount of registration fee (3)
Common Stock	--	--
Preferred Stock	--	--
Depositary Shares	--	--
Debt Securities	--	--
Rights	--	--
Units	--	--
Warrants	--	--

Total	\$150,000,000	\$8,370.00
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- (1) Any securities registered hereunder may be sold separately or as units with other securities registered hereunder. The securities which may be offered pursuant to this Registration Statement include, pursuant to Rule 416 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), such additional number of shares of the registrant's common stock that may become issuable as a result of any stock split, stock dividends or similar event. In the event the registrant elects to offer to the public fractional interests in its shares of preferred stock registered hereunder, depository shares, evidenced by depository receipts issued pursuant to a deposit agreement, will be distributed to those persons purchasing fractional interests and the shares of preferred stock will be issued to the depository under any such agreement.
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- (2) An indeterminate aggregate offering price and number or amount of the securities of each identified class is being registered as may from time to time be sold at indeterminate prices, with a maximum aggregate offering price not to exceed \$150 million. Separate consideration may or may not be received for securities that are issuable upon conversion of, or in exchange for, or upon exercise of, convertible or exchangeable securities. The proposed maximum aggregate offering price for each class of securities to be registered is not specified pursuant to General Instruction II.D of Form S-3.
- (3) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee in accordance with Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

The Registrant hereby amends this registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.



The information in this preliminary prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This preliminary prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state or jurisdiction where the offer or sale is prohibited.

Subject to Completion, dated August 14, 2009

PROSPECTUS
\$150,000,000

Common Stock
Preferred Stock
Depositary Shares
Debt Securities
Rights
Units
Warrants

We may offer and sell from time to time under this prospectus an indeterminate number of shares of our common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, debt securities, rights to purchase common stock, units consisting of two or more of these classes or series of securities and warrants to purchase any of the other securities that may be sold under this prospectus. We will describe in a prospectus supplement the securities we are offering and selling, as well as the specific terms of the securities.

We may offer these securities in amounts, at prices and on terms determined at the time of offering. We may sell the securities directly to you, through agents we select, or through underwriters and dealers we select. If we use agents, underwriters or dealers to sell the securities, we will name them and describe their compensation in a prospectus supplement.

Our common stock is quoted on The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "NGS." On August 12, 2009, the last reported sale price of our common stock was \$13.53 per share. The applicable prospectus supplement will contain information, where applicable, as to any other listing on the NYSE or any other securities exchange of the securities covered by the prospectus supplement.

We may amend or supplement this prospectus from time to time by filing amendments or supplements as required. You should read this entire prospectus and any amendments or supplements carefully before you make your investment decision.

Investing in our securities involves certain risks. You should carefully consider the matters set forth in "Risk Factors" on page 3 of this prospectus and in the applicable prospectus supplement, along with any risk factor information incorporated by reference herein for certain risks you should consider. You should read the entire prospectus carefully before you make your investment decision.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a

criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is _____, 2009.

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You should rely on the information contained in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information different from that contained in this prospectus. Offers to sell the securities will be made only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. The information contained in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or of any sale of the securities.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained in this prospectus are not statements of historical fact and constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act (the “Act”), including, without limitation, the statements specifically identified as forward-looking statements within this prospectus. Many of these statements contain risk factors as well. In addition, certain statements in future filings by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission, in press releases, and in oral and written statements made by or with the approval of the Company which are not statements of historical fact constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Act. Examples of forward-looking statements, include, but are not limited to: (i) projections of revenues, income or loss, earnings or loss per share, the payment or non-payment of dividends, capital structure, and other financial items, (ii) statements of our plans and objectives by our management or Board of Directors including those relating to planned development of our natural gas compression business, (iii) statements of future economic performance and (iv) statements of assumptions underlying such statements. Words such as “believes,” “anticipates,” “expects,” “intends,” “targeted,” “may,” “will” and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements but are not the exclusive means of identifying such statements.

Such forward-looking statements speak only as of the date on which such statements are made, and the Company undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which such statement is made to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This is only a summary and does not contain all of the information that you should consider before investing in our common stock. You should read the entire prospectus carefully, including the “Risk Factors” section as well as the information incorporated by reference into this prospectus under “Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference--Where You Can Find More Information.”

In this prospectus, the terms “company,” “we,” “us,” and “our” refer to Natural Gas Services Group, Inc., a Colorado corporation, including our wholly owned subsidiaries, if any.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission utilizing a shelf registration process. Under the shelf registration process, we may offer shares of our common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, various series of debt securities, rights, units and warrants to purchase any of such securities with a total value of up to \$150,000,000 from time to time under this prospectus at prices and on terms to be determined by market conditions at the time of offering. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer a type or series of securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will describe the specific amounts, prices and other important terms of the securities, including, to the extent applicable:

- designation or classification;
- aggregate principal amount or aggregate offering price;
- maturity;
- original issue discount, if any;
- rates and times of payment of interest, dividends or other payments, if any;
- redemption, conversion, exchange, settlement or sinking fund terms, if any;
- conversion, exchange or settlement prices or rates, if any, and, if applicable, any provisions for changes to or adjustments in the conversion, exchange or settlement prices or rates and in the securities or other property receivable upon conversion, exchange or settlement;
- ranking;
- restrictive covenants, if any;
- voting or other rights, if any; and
- important federal income tax considerations.

A prospectus supplement may include a discussion of risks or other special considerations applicable to us or the offered securities. A prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, you must rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. Please carefully read both this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading “Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference--Where You Can Find More Information.” This prospectus may not be used to offer or sell any securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

The registration statement containing this prospectus, including exhibits to the registration statement, provides additional information about us and the common stock offered under this prospectus. The registration statement can be read at the SEC website or at the SEC’s public reading room mentioned under the heading “Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference--Where You Can Find More Information.”

We have not authorized any underwriter, broker-dealer, salesperson or other person to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the accompanying supplement to this prospectus. You must not rely upon any information or representation not contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement. This prospectus and the accompanying supplement to this prospectus do not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy securities, nor do this prospectus and the accompanying supplement to this prospectus constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy securities in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation. We may also authorize one or more free writing prospectuses to be provided to you that may contain material information relating to these offerings. The prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus or in any documents that we have incorporated by reference into this prospectus. To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus and the prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus, you should rely on the

information in the prospectus supplement or the related free writing prospectus; provided that if any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date — for example, a document incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus — the statement in the document having the later date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement.

We may sell the securities directly to or through underwriters, dealers or agents. We, and our underwriters or agents, reserve the right to accept or reject all or part of any proposed purchase of securities. If we do offer securities through underwriters or agents, we will include in the applicable prospectus supplement:

- the names of those underwriters or agents;
- applicable fees, discounts and commissions to be paid to them;
- details regarding over-allotment options, if any; and
- the net proceeds to us.

INFORMATION ABOUT NATURAL GAS SERVICES GROUP, INC.

We are a leading provider of small to medium horsepower compression equipment to the natural gas industry. We focus primarily on the non-conventional natural gas production business in the United States (such as coalbed methane, gas shales and tight gas), which, according to data from the Energy Information Administration, is the single largest and fastest growing segment of U.S. gas production. We manufacture, fabricate and rent natural gas compressors that enhance the production of natural gas wells and provide maintenance services for those compressors. In addition, we sell custom fabricated natural gas compressors to meet customer specifications dictated by well pressures, production characteristics and particular applications. We also manufacture and sell flare systems for oil and gas plant and production facilities.

The vast majority of our rental operations are in non-conventional natural gas regions, which typically have lower initial reservoir pressures and faster well decline rates. These areas usually require compression to be installed sooner and with greater frequency.

We maintain our principal offices at 508 W. Wall St., Suite 550, Midland, Texas 79701 and our telephone number is (432) 262-2700. Our website is located at <http://www.ngsgi.com>. The information on or that can be accessed through our website is not part of this prospectus. We were incorporated in Colorado on December 17, 1998.

RISK FACTORS

Any investment in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should consider carefully the risk factors described in our periodic reports filed with the SEC (including the risks, uncertainties and assumptions discussed under the heading “Risk Factors” included in our most recent annual report on Form 10-K, as such may be revised or supplemented prior to the completion of this offering by more recently filed quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, each of which is or upon filing will be incorporated herein by reference), which may be amended, supplemented or superseded from time to time by other reports we file with the SEC in the future, and those identified in any applicable prospectus supplement, as well as other information in this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference herein before purchasing any of our securities. Each of these risk factors could adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition, as well as adversely affect the value of an investment in our securities. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also impair our business operations.

DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK AND PREFERRED STOCK

The following description of our common stock and preferred stock, together with any additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus, summarizes the material terms and provisions of our common stock and the preferred stock that we may offer under this prospectus. While the terms we have summarized below will apply generally to any future common stock or preferred stock that we may offer, we will describe the particular terms of any class or series of these securities in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. For the complete terms of our common stock and preferred stock, please refer to our articles of incorporation and our amended and restated bylaws that are incorporated by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part or may be incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement. The terms of these securities may also be affected by the Colorado Business Corporation Act. The summary below and that contained in any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus are qualified in their entirety by reference to our articles of incorporation and our amended and restated bylaws.

Common Stock

We are currently authorized to issue 30,000,000 shares of Common Stock, and as of July 31, 2009, (i) 12,096,833 shares of Common Stock were issued and outstanding, (ii) 750,000 shares were reserved for issuance under our 1998 Stock Option Plan, of which 397,069 shares remain unissued; (ii) 300,000 shares were reserved for issuance under the our 2009 Restricted Stock/Unit Plan, of which all 300,000 shares remain unissued, and (iii) 45,000 shares were reserved for issuance upon exercise of a Non-Statutory Stock Option Agreement dated August 24, 2005 issued to one of our an executive officers.

Voting Rights

Each share of Common Stock entitles the holder thereof to one vote on each matter for which shareholders are entitled to vote. A majority of the outstanding shares of our Common Stock of the Company entitled to vote at meetings of shareholders, present in person or by proxy, constitute a quorum at any meeting of shareholders. Matters are generally decided by the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of our Common Stock present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote. The Board of Directors is elected by plurality and cumulative voting is not allowed. Thus, at each election of directors, that number of candidates equaling the number of directors to be elected, having the highest number of votes cast in favor of their election, shall be elected to the Board of Directors.

Dividends

Holders of Common Stock are entitled to dividends out of funds legally available for such dividends when, if and as declared by the Board of Directors.

Liquidation

In event of the voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution, distribution of assets or other winding up, holders of our common stock have the right to receive ratably all of the assets remaining after payment of liabilities and liquidation preferences of any preferred stock then outstanding.

Other Matters

Shares of Common Stock are not liable to assessment or further call. Our Common Stock has no preemptive, conversion or other subscription rights. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to our Common Stock. All outstanding shares of Common Stock are validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

Preferred Stock

We are authorized to issue 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock, none of which are issued and outstanding as of the date of this prospectus. Our board of directors is authorized to classify or reclassify any unissued portion of our authorized shares of preferred stock to provide for the issuance of shares of other classes or series, including preferred stock in one or more series. We may issue preferred stock from time to time in one or more class or series, with the exact terms of each class or series established by our board of directors. Our board of directors may issue preferred stock with voting and other rights that could adversely affect the voting power of the holders of our common stock without seeking shareholder approval. Additionally, the issuance of preferred stock may have the effect of decreasing the market price of the common stock and may adversely affect the voting power of holders of common stock and reduce the likelihood that common shareholders will receive dividend payments and payments upon liquidation.

The rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions of the preferred stock of each series will be fixed by the certificate of designation relating to each series. We will incorporate by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part the form of any certificate of designation that describes the terms of the series of preferred stock we are offering before the issuance of the related series of preferred stock. The applicable prospectus supplement will specify the terms of the series of preferred stock we are offering, including, but not limited to:

- the distinctive designation and the maximum number of shares in the series;
- the number of shares we are offering and purchase price per share;
- the liquidation preference, if any;
- the terms on which dividends, if any, will be paid;
- the voting rights, if any, on the shares of the series;
- the terms and conditions, if any, on which the shares of the series shall be convertible into, or exchangeable for, shares of any other class or classes of capital stock;
- the terms on which the shares may be redeemed, if at all;
- any listing of the preferred stock on any securities exchange or market;

- a discussion of any material or special United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the preferred stock; and
- any or all other preferences, rights, restrictions, including restrictions on transferability, and qualifications of shares of the series.

The issuance of preferred stock may delay, deter or prevent a change in control.

The prospectus supplement relating to a preferred stock offering will contain a description of the specific terms of that series as fixed by our Board of Directors.

Anti-Takeover Effects of Provisions of our Charter Documents and Colorado Law

The following is a summary of certain provisions of Colorado law, our amended articles of incorporation and bylaws. This summary does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the corporate law of Colorado and our amended articles of incorporation and bylaws.

Size of Board. Our Bylaws provide that the size of the Board of Directors may not be changed except (i) by a resolution adopted by at least 80% of the votes entitled to be cast by each shareholder voting group entitled to vote thereon, or (ii) by unanimous consent of the Board of Directors. This provision of the Bylaws may not be changed except upon approval by at least 80% of the votes entitled to be cast by each voting group entitled to vote thereon.

Filling Vacancies on Board. Except with respect to a vacancy on the Board of Directors due to the removal of the Director, any vacancy on the Board may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the shareholders or the Board of Directors. As a result of the ability of the Board to fill a vacancy, such new directors may not be up for shareholder election at the next annual meeting due to the staggered Board classification described below. The overall effect of these provisions may be to prevent a person or entity from immediately acquiring Board control.

Removal of Directors. Our Bylaws provide that any Director or the entire Board of Directors may be removed for cause only at a special meeting of the shareholders by the affirmative vote of at least 80% of the votes entitled to be cast by each voting group entitled to vote thereon at such meeting, if notice of the intention to act upon such matter shall have been given in the notice calling the meeting. The Bylaws also provide that vacancies arising as a result of the removal of directors by shareholder action may be filled at such meeting by the affirmative vote of at least 80% of the shares of the votes entitled to be cast by each voting group entitled to vote thereon. This provision of the Bylaws may not be changed except upon approval by at least 80% of the votes entitled to be cast by each voting group entitled to vote thereon.

Staggered Board of Directors. Our amended articles of incorporation provide that the Board of Directors is to be divided into three classes, each class to be as nearly equal in number as possible. At each annual meeting of shareholders, members of one of the classes, on a rotating basis, are elected for a three year term. The staggered Board provision cannot be amended or repealed by the directors and cannot be amended or repealed without the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 80% of the votes entitled to be cast in the election of directors.

Limited Ability for Shareholders to Call a Special Meeting. Our Bylaws only permit shareholders to call a special meeting if we receive one or more written demands for the meeting, stating the purpose or purposes of the meeting, signed and dated by holders of shares representing at least 10% of all votes entitled to be cast on any issue proposed to be considered at the meeting.

No cumulative voting. Cumulative voting in the election of directors is not allowed.

Indemnification. The amended articles provide that our directors and officers shall be indemnified and shall be advanced expenses incurred in defending a civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit or proceeding arising out of their status as directors and officers to the fullest extent allowed by law.

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

General

We may, at our option, elect to offer fractional shares or multiple shares of preferred stock, rather than whole individual shares of preferred stock. If we decide to do so, we will issue the preferred stock in the form of depositary shares. Each depositary share will represent a fraction or multiple of a share of a particular series of preferred stock and will