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): December 11, 2018

Hercules Capital, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

> 400 Hamilton Ave., Suite 310 Palo Alto, CA

(Address of principal executive offices)

814-00702 (Commission File No.)

74-3113410 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

94301 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (650) 289-3060

Not Applicable

(Former name or 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)

D Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

D Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter)

Emerging growth company \Box

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. \Box

Item 8.01 Other Events

On December 11, 2018, Hercules Capital, Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release announcing that it is fully redeeming in two equal transactions approximately \$83.5 million (face value) in issued and outstanding aggregate principal amount of the Company's 6.25% Notes due 2024 (CUSIP No. 427096 862). The text of the press release is included as an exhibit to this Form 8-K.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release dated December 11, 2018.

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.

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC.

December 11, 2018

By: /s/ Melanie Grace

Melanie Grace

General Counsel



Hercules Announces Its Intention to Fully Redeem its 6.25% Notes due 2024

The redemption is expected to be completed in two equal transactions in Q1 2019, and to include a one-time (non-cash) expense to earnings of approximately \$1.7 Million, or \$0.02 per share

PALO ALTO, Calif., December 11, 2018 – <u>Hercules Capital, Inc</u>. (NYSE: HTGC) ("Hercules" or the "Company"), the leading specialty finance company to innovative, venture growth, pre-IPO and M&A stage companies backed by leading venture capital firms, today announced its intent to fully redeem approximately \$83.5 million (face value) in issued and outstanding aggregate principal amount of the Company's 6.25% Notes due 2024 (CUSIP No. 427096 862) (the "Notes"), which were issued pursuant to the indenture dated as of March 6, 2012, between the Company and U.S. National Bank Association, as trustee, as supplemented by the third supplemental indenture dated as of July 14, 2014 (the "Indenture"). The Notes trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol "HTGX".

The redemption price will be par \$25.00 per Note plus accrued and unpaid interest through, but excluding, the redemption dates of:

- January 14, 2019
- February 4, 2019

The Notes should be presented and surrendered by mail or by hand at the office of the Paying Agent, U.S. Bank National Association, Corporate Trust Services, 111 Fillmore Avenue E, St. Paul, MN 55107. Each settlement of the redemption is expected to occur on January 14, 2019 and February 4, 2019, respectively. Questions related to the notice of redemption and related materials should be directed to U.S. Bank via telephone at 1-800-934-6802.

The full redemption of the remaining \$83.5 million issued and outstanding aggregate principal amount of Notes will result in a one-time/non-recurring non-cash expense in Q1 2019 of approximately \$1.7 million, or \$0.02 per share, based on the 95.5 million weighted average shares outstanding on September 30, 2018, attributed to the acceleration the remaining unamortized underwriting fees and expenses.

About Hercules Capital, Inc.

Hercules Capital, Inc. (NYSE: HTGC) ("Hercules") is the leading and largest specialty finance company focused on providing senior secured venture growth loans to high-growth, innovative venture capital-backed companies in a broad variety of technology, life sciences and sustainable and renewable technology industries. Since inception (December 2003), Hercules has committed more than \$8.2 billion to over 440 companies and is the lender of choice for entrepreneurs and venture capital firms seeking growth capital financing. Companies interested in learning more about financing opportunities should contact info@htgc.com, or call 650.289.3060.

Hercules' common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the ticker symbol "HTGC." In addition, Hercules has five outstanding bond issuances of 6.25% Notes due 2024 (NYSE: HTGX), 4.375% Convertible Notes due 2022, 4.625% Notes due 2022, 5.25% Notes due 2025 (NYSE: HCXZ) and 6.25% Notes due 2033 (NYSE: HCXY).

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release may contain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. You should understand that under Section 27A(b)(2)(B) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E(b)(2)(B) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, the "safe harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 do not apply to forward-looking statements made in periodic reports we file under the Exchange Act.

The information disclosed in this press release is made as of the date hereof and reflects Hercules' most current assessment of its historical financial performance. Actual financial results filed with the SEC may differ from those contained herein due to timing delays between the date of this release and confirmation of final audit results. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements including, without limitation, the risks, uncertainties, including the uncertainties surrounding the current market volatility, and other factors the Company identifies from time to time in its filings with the SEC. Although Hercules believes that the assumptions on which these forward-looking statements are based are reasonable, any of those assumptions could prove to be inaccurate and, as a result, the forward-looking statements based on those assumptions also could be incorrect. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements contained in this release are made as of the date hereof, and Hercules assumes no obligation to update the forward-looking statements for subsequent events.

Contact:

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