## ANHEUSER-BUSCH COMPANIES, INC.

Form 11-K June 22, 2005

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

FORM 11-K

FOR ANNUAL REPORTS OF EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE, SAVINGS AND SIMILAR PLANS PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

(x) Annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the Fiscal year ended March 31, 2005

OF

( ) Transition report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (NO FEE REQUIRED)

For the Transition period From to

Commission File Number

\_\_\_\_\_

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:

ANHEUSER-BUSCH GLOBAL EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN

ANHEUSER-BUSCH COMPANIES, INC.
One Busch Place
St. Louis, Missouri 63118

#### REQUIRED INFORMATION

A. Financial Statements and Exhibits

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Financial Statements:

Statements of Contributions and Purchases by Participants

Notes to Financial Statements

- B. Exhibits
  - 23 Consent of Independent Registered Accounting Firm

2

[PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP logo]

\_\_\_\_\_\_

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP 800 Market Street St Louis MO 63101-2695 Telephone (314) 206 8500

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Participants and Administrator of the Anheuser-Busch Global Employee Stock Purchase Plan

In our opinion, the accompanying statements of contributions and purchases by participants present fairly, in all material respects, the contributions and purchases by participants of the Anheuser-Busch Global Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "Plan") for the years ending March 31, 2005 and 2004, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits of these statements in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

St. Louis, Missouri June 3, 2005

3

STATEMENTS OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND PURCHASES BY PARTICIPANTS FOR THE YEARS ENDING MARCH 31,  $2005\ \text{AND}\ 2004$ 

	2005	2004
Contributions by participants	\$ 408,169	\$ 675 <b>,</b> 724
Purchases by participants	(408,169)	(675 <b>,</b> 724)
Net activity	\$0	\$0

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

4

ANHEUSER-BUSCH GLOBAL EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 2005 AND 2004

\_\_\_\_\_

#### 1. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN

The following description of the Anheuser-Busch Global Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "Plan") is intended to give a general summary of its principal provisions. Participants should refer to the Plan document for more complete information.

## PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The Plan is an employee stock purchase plan designed to encourage ownership of shares in Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc. (the "Company") by permanent employees of the Company and its subsidiaries located outside the United States. The Plan commenced March 1, 1999.

## PLAN ADMINISTRATION

The Company administers the Plan. The Company has appointed Watson Wyatt Worldwide, an international employee benefits consulting firm, to assist in plan administration and record keeping. The Company has selected DB Alex. Brown, a securities broker in the United States, as the Plan broker to hold purchased shares on behalf of Plan participants. Neither of these entities is related to the Company as an affiliate or subsidiary. The broker maintains custody of all stock purchased by participants and is responsible for delivery of shares of stock sold by the participants, except as otherwise directed by the participants.

## PLAN BENEFITS

Under the Plan, participants enrolled in the plan on the offer date each year will be given the right to purchase up to 200 shares of the Company's common stock at the offering price, which is fixed at

the market price on the United States business day prior to the offer date. The offer date is generally March 1. Purchases can only be made if the market price on the employee's purchase date is higher than the offer price. Each year's offer expires on the third anniversary of the offer date.

If shares purchased through the Plan are held in the participant's DB Alex. Brown account for at least two years after the purchase date, the Company will award additional shares at a rate of 10 percent, 30 percent, or 50 percent of shares purchased depending upon business performance. The rate for additional share awards will be determined and announced prior to the offer date. These awards are made by the Company directly to the employees. Under this provision, the Company awarded 925.4 shares in fiscal 2005 and 325.6 shares in fiscal 2004.

All contributions used to purchase shares must be accumulated in a local savings account in the name of the participant through payroll deductions. Withdrawals from the savings account can be made at any time. However, deposits may only be made by payroll deduction; therefore, previous withdrawals cannot be replaced for the purpose of purchasing shares. The participant maintains full ownership of the cash used to purchase shares as well as the newly issued shares that are purchased. Thus, there are no assets held by the Plan.

5

ANHEUSER-BUSCH GLOBAL EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 2005 AND 2004

\_\_\_\_\_\_

In the United Kingdom, there is a sub-plan designed to qualify for favorable tax treatment for employees who participate. Under this "savings related share option scheme," employees enter into a three-year savings contract and are eligible to purchase shares at the end of the three-year period.

## EXPENSES OF THE PLAN

Under the Plan agreement, the Company may pay all expenses incurred in the administration of the Plan, including custodial fees, but is not obligated to do so. All expenses for the years ended March 31, 2005 and 2004 were paid by the Company and are not reflected in the financial statements of the Plan. If shares purchased under the Plan are subsequently sold by the participant, the participant is responsible for all fees, commissions, and other costs incurred in such transactions.

## SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The Plan's financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of additions to and deductions

from net assets during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### VALUATION OF THE COMPANY'S STOCK

The offering or purchase price of the Company's common stock shares is determined by the market price of the stock on the day prior to the offer date. Market price is defined as the closing price of one share in the United States as reported the subsequent day in the West Coast edition of The Wall Street Journal, New York Stock Exchange Transactions-Composite Transactions.

## 3. DIVIDENDS ON PURCHASED SHARES

Any dividends paid on shares purchased under the Plan are retained by the respective participants and will be reinvested in additional shares for the benefit of the participants unless the participant elects otherwise or the law requires otherwise. Shares purchased with reinvested dividends are not eligible for the additional share awards.

## 4. TAX WITHHOLDING

Where required by law, the Company and its subsidiaries will report to the appropriate governmental authority any amount subject to tax and social charges on account of any offer, purchase or sale pursuant to the Plan. Participants are responsible for all tax and social charge liabilities by means of withholding from the participants' current pay or other assets.

6

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the trustees (or other persons who administer the employee benefit plan) have duly caused this annual report to be signed by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

ANHEUSER-BUSCH GLOBAL EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN

By: /s/ JOHN T. FARRELL

John T. Farrell

Vice President,
Employee Benefits
Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.

Dated: June 22, 2005