CHARLES & COLVARD LTD Form 8-K March 18, 2013

### 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) March 12, 2013

Charles & Colvard, Ltd. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

North Carolina (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 000-23329 (Commission File Number) 56-1928817 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

300 Perimeter Park Drive, Suite A Morrisville, North Carolina (Address of principal executive offices)

27560 (Zip Code)

(919) 468-0399 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

N/A

(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:

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange

Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

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

It e mDeparture of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; 5.02 Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

Effective as of March 12, 2013, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Charles & Colvard, Ltd. (the "Company") promoted Thomas G. Pautz from the position of Vice President, Sales & Marketing to the position of President, Wholesale Division. In connection with his promotion, the Board increased Mr. Pautz's annual base salary from \$220,000 to \$250,000, effective as of January 1, 2013. Mr. Pautz's other compensation arrangements are unchanged.

In addition, on March 12, 2013, Mr. Pautz was awarded a cash bonus of \$100,000 and was granted an incentive stock option to purchase 50,000 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$3.59 per share. The stock option vests over a three-year period, with 25% of the award vesting on the grant date and 25% of the award vesting on each of the following three anniversary dates of the grant date.

I t e mFinancial Statements and Exhibits. 9.01

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No. Description of Document

99.1 Press Release dated March 18, 2013

### **SIGNATURE**

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.

Charles & Colvard, Ltd.

March 18, 2013 By: /s/ Timothy L. Krist

Timothy L. Krist

Chief Financial Officer

## EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. Description of Document

99.1 Press Release dated March 18, 2013