Eriksen Knut Form 3 January 10, 2006

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

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

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SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting

Person *

Eriksen Knut

(Last)

(First)

(Middle)

Statement

(Month/Day/Year)

01/09/2006

2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

NATCO GROUP INC [NTG]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

5. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

C/O NATCO GROUP INC., 2950 NORTH LOOP

WEST, SUITE 700

(Street)

10% Owner Director

_X__ Officer Other (give title below) (specify below) SVP - Engineered Systems

(Check all applicable)

6. Individual or Joint/Group

Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting

Person

Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

HOUSTON, TXÂ 77092

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security

(Instr. 4)

2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

(Instr. 4)

3. Ownership Form:

4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

Direct (D) or Indirect (I)

(Instr. 5)

Common Stock (1)

15,000

Â D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

SEC 1473 (7-02)

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

Expiration Date

3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

4. 5. Conversion or Exercise

6. Nature of Indirect Ownership Beneficial Ownership Form of (Instr. 5)

Price of Derivative Derivative Security:

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

2. Date Exercisable and (Month/Day/Year)

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Security	Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Stock Option (Right to	(2)	01/09/2016	Common Stock	25,000	\$ 21.8	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
1	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
Eriksen Knut C/O NATCO GROUP INC. 2950 NORTH LOOP WEST, SUITE 700 HOUSTON, TX 77092	Â	Â	SVP - Engineered Systems	Â	

Signatures

Knut Eriksen 01/10/2006

**Signature of Pate Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- The grant represents shares of restricted stock. Restrictions on this grant shall lapse as to 100% of the shares on the third anniversary date of the grant, provided the recipient has continuously served as an employee during such period. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the restrictions may earlier lapse on a Change of Control, termination of employment due to death or disability, or involuntary termination of the recipient's employment without cause.
- These stock options vest in one-third increments on the first, second and third anniversaries of the date of grant (1/9/06), subject to

 (2) continued employment on the applicable vesting date. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the options may earlier vest on a Change of Control or involuntary termination of the recipient's employment without cause.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *See* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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