

MARKEL CORP  
Form 4  
November 05, 2008

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF 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 \*  
KIRSHNER ALAN I

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O MARKEL CORPORATION, 4521 HIGHWOODS PKWY

(Street)

GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
MARKEL CORP [MKL]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
11/04/2008

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Chairman and CEO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (D) Price  |   |  |  |
| Common Stock                    | 11/04/2008                           |  | X(1)(2)(3)                     | 8,987 D (2)(3)  | 47,158  | D  |  |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 268.126   | I  | 401(K) Plan (4)                            |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 250.627   | I  | By Spouse - 401(K) Plan (4) (5)            |

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



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- (3) On November 4, 2008, Mr. Kirshner delivered 8,987 shares of Common Stock, and any potential delivery obligations regarding the remaining 1,013 shares of Common Stock subject to the Forward Agreement were extinguished.

- Holdings under the Markel Corporation 401(K) Plan are reported in units. The information reported herein is based on a plan statement
- (4) dated as of September 30, 2008 and utilizes the closing stock price on that date of \$351.50. As of 9/30/2008, a unit under the Plan represented one share of Common Stock.

- (5) Beneficial ownership of securities is expressly disclaimed.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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