CATO CORP Form 4 July 29, 2008

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Expires: January 31, 2005

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Section 16.
Form 4 or
Form 5
obligations
may continue.
See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Ad HOWE JOHN	•	orting Person *	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer		
(Last)	(Last) (First) (Middle)		CATO CORP [CTR] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)		
P.O. BOX 34216			(Month/Day/Year) 07/25/2008	Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) VP - ASST. CONTROL		
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person		
CHARLOTTE, NC 282344216				Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City)	(State) (Zı	Table I	- Non-Der	ivative Se	curitie	s Acqu	ired, Disposed of	, or Beneficiall	y 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 on(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or Amount (D) Price		5. Amount of Securities Ownership Beneficially Form: Direct Owned (D) or Following Indirect (I) Reported (Instr. 4) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
CLASS A COMMON STOCK	07/25/2008		M		` '		14,117	D	
CLASS A COMMON STOCK	07/25/2008		S	2,500	D	\$ 18	11,617	D	

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

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.

SEC 1474

(9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number on Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amour or Number of Shares
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 8.96	07/25/2008		M <u>(1)</u>	7,500	08/11/1999(1)	08/11/2008	CLASS A COMMON STOCK	7,50
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 8.83					08/28/2000	08/28/2009	CLASS A COMMON STOCK	4,50
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 8.19					11/01/2000(2)	11/01/2009	CLASS A COMMON STOCK	4,50

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

HOWE JOHN R

P.O. BOX 34216 VP - ASST. CONTROL

CHARLOTTE, NC 282344216

Signatures

By: BRIAN S. MCALPINE, ATTORNEY-IN-FACT 07/29/2008

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(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).
- (1) This option will vest in 5 equal annual increments beginning 08/11/1999.
- (2) This option will vest in 5 equal annual increments beginning 11/01/2000.

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

Reporting Owners 2

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