

BARRATT CRAIG H  
 Form 4  
 October 27, 2010

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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 \*  
 BARRATT CRAIG H

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS INC [ATHR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 10/27/2010

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

C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 1700 TECHNOLOGY DRIVE

(Street)

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

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

SAN JOSE,, CA 95110

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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 (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	10/27/2010		M	50,000 A \$ 14.38	286,363	D	
Common Stock	10/27/2010		S <sup>(1)</sup>	50,000 D \$ 31.3393	236,363	D	
Common Stock					2,250	I	See Footnote <sup>(3)</sup>
Common					2,250	I	See

Stock

Footnote  
(3)

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

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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**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 of 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	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 14.38	10/27/2010		M	50,000	(4) 01/18/2011	Common Stock	50,000	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BARRATT CRAIG H C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. 1700 TECHNOLOGY DRIVE SAN JOSE,, CA 95110	X		President and CEO	

## Signatures

Bruce P. Johnson,  
Attorney-in-fact

10/27/2010

\_\_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) The sales reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan.

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- Represents the weighted average sales price for a number of sale transactions effected at prices ranging from \$31.05 to \$31.64. The
- (2) Reporting Person has provided to the issuer, and undertakes to provide upon request by the SEC staff, or any security holder of the issuer, information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range.

These shares are held in trust for the benefit of the reporting person's son. The reporting person's brother-in-law is the trustee of the trust.

- (3) The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities, and the filing of this report is not an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of these securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.
- (4) Options became exercisable in 48 equal monthly installments commencing on 2/18/2006.

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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