

PAPA GEORGE A  
Form 4  
February 02, 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 \*  
PAPA GEORGE A

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
101 INNOVATION DRIVE  
(Street)

SAN JOSE, CA 95134

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
ALTERA CORP [ALTR]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
01/30/2010

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)  
Sr VP, Worldwide Sales

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)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
Common Stock	01/30/2010		M	10,000	A \$ 0	10,935	D
Common Stock	01/30/2010		F	3,927 <u>(1)</u>	D \$ 21.32	7,008	D

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

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(9-02)

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

Table with 8 columns: 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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4). Rows include Performance Restricted Stock Unit and Restricted Stock Unit (RSU).

Reporting Owners

Table with 2 columns: Reporting Owner Name / Address, Relationships. Relationship categories include Director, 10% Owner, Officer, Other. Entry for PAPA GEORGE A, Sr VP, Worldwide Sales.

Signatures

George A. Papa 02/02/2010
\*\*Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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) Shares withheld to cover required tax withholding on RSU shares released on January 30, 2010.
(2) Each Restricted Stock Unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Altera common stock at no cost.
(3) The Compensation Committee of Altera Corporation's Board of Directors previously approved a grant effective on March 2, 2009 of performance-based Restricted Stock Units such that 100% of the vesting would be contingent on the Company achieving net income from continuing operations as a percentage of net sales of 17% or greater for fiscal year 2009. After achievement of the performance metric, the RSUs are still subject to a service requirement such that they will vest 25% annually commencing July 31, 2010. Effective February 1, 2010 the Compensation Committee certified that the Company achieved the performance metric for fiscal year 2009.
(4) Twenty five percent (25%) of the Restricted Stock Unit granted on 1/30/2006 became vested on January 30, 2010 and shares were delivered to the reporting person on that date.

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.