

FINOCCHIO ROBERT J  
Form 4  
January 27, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 \*  
FINOCCHIO ROBERT J

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
01/26/2012

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

SAN JOSE, CA 95134

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

(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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount or Price		
Common Stock	01/26/2012		M		3,333 A \$ 20.56	23,334	D
Common Stock	01/26/2012		S		3,333 (1) D 40.9312 (1)	20,001	D
Common Stock	01/26/2012		M		10,000 A \$ 17.24	30,001	D
Common Stock	01/26/2012		S		10,000 (1) D 40.9312 (1)	20,001	D
Common Stock	01/26/2012		M		10,000 A \$ 22.03	30,001	D

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Stock

Common Stock	01/26/2012	S	<u>10,000</u> (1)	D	\$ 40.9312 (1)	20,001	D
Common Stock	01/26/2012	M	10,000	A	\$ 20.73	30,001	D
Common Stock	01/26/2012	S	<u>10,000</u> (1)	D	\$ 40.9312 (1)	20,001	D
Common Stock	01/26/2012	M	10,000	A	\$ 21.07	30,001	D
Common Stock	01/26/2012	S	<u>10,000</u> (1)	D	\$ 40.9312 (1)	20,001	D
Common Stock	01/26/2012	M	10,000	A	\$ 23.52	30,001	D
Common Stock	01/26/2012	S	<u>10,000</u> (1)	D	\$ 40.9312 (1)	20,001	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)

**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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 17.24	01/26/2012		M	10,000	05/31/2007 05/06/2013	Common Stock 10
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 20.56	01/26/2012		M	3,333	05/31/2006 04/30/2012	Common Stock 3,

Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 20.73	01/26/2012	M	10,000	05/10/2009	05/10/2015	Common Stock	10
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 21.07	01/26/2012	M	10,000	05/09/2010	05/09/2016	Common Stock	10
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 22.03	01/26/2012	M	10,000	05/31/2007	05/11/2014	Common Stock	10
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 23.52	01/26/2012	M	10,000	05/08/2011	05/08/2017	Common Stock	10

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
FINOCCHIO ROBERT J 101 INNOVATION DRIVE SAN JOSE, CA 95134	X			

## Signatures

ROBERT J  
FINOCCHIO

01/27/2012

\*\*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 53,333 shares were sold in 98 lots ranging from 2 shares to 20,000 shares per lot. The sale price ranged between \$40.65 and \$41.20.

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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