JAMES SUSAN M.
Form 4
March 24, 2009

FORM 4

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

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

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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
JAMES SUSAN M.

(Last) (First) (Middle)

P. O. BOX 54980

(Street)

SANTA CLARA, CA 95056

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
COHERENT INC [COHR]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
03/11/2009

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
_X_ 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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			

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	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	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount Underlying Securitie (Instr. 3 and 4)

	Derivative Security			(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)						
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Shares
Restricted Stock Units	$ 0	03/11/2009		A		2,000		(1)	03/11/2012	Common Stock	2,00
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	$ 15.21	03/11/2009		A		6,000		(2)	03/11/2019	Common Stock	6,00

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
JAMES SUSAN M. P. O. BOX 54980 SANTA CLARA, CA 95056	X			

Signatures

/s/ Bret DiMarco, Pursuant to Power of Attorney	03/24/2009
**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) Automatic grant under the 1998 Director Plan. Grant of restricted stock units cliff vesting on the day prior to the annual stockholder's meeting held three calendar years from the date of grant. Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Coherent common stock.

(2) Automatic grant under the 1998 Director Plan. These options become exercisable as to one half of the common shares on the day prior to each of the next two annual stockholder's meetings.

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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