

DAANE JOHN  
Form 4  
January 28, 2011

**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 \*  
DAANE JOHN

(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)  
01/26/2011

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)  
President and CEO

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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	01/27/2011		M		100,000	A	\$ 23.47
Common Stock	01/27/2011		S		100,000	D	\$ 37.7628

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 of Underlying Security (Instr. 3)	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 23.47	01/27/2011		M		100,000	01/05/2005 01/05/2014	Common Stock
Performance Restricted Stock Unit	(2)	01/26/2011(3)		A	122,500	(3) (3)		Common Stock

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
DAANE JOHN 101 INNOVATION DRIVE SAN JOSE, CA 95134			President and CEO	

## Signatures

John Daane 01/28/2011  
 \*\*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 100,000 shares were sold in 55 lots ranging from 1 share to 7,000 shares per lot. The sale price ranged between \$37.60 and \$38.02.
- (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 February 19, 2010 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 2010. 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, 2011. Effective January 26, 2011 the Compensation Committee certified that the Company achieved the performance metric for fiscal year 2010.

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.