Nichols Michael L Form 4 March 16, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

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Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Nichols Michael L Issuer Symbol KEY TECHNOLOGY INC [KTEC] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner __X__ Other (specify Officer (give title C/O KEY TECHNOLOGY. 03/16/2012 below) below) INC., 150 AVERY STREET Senior Director of R&D (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting WALLA WALLA, WA 99362 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of

1.Title of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial Owned Indirect (I) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price 1,263 Common \$ 03/16/2012 F D 29,002 D (1) Stock 13.96

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

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

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)			ate	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	nt of lying ities	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene
	Derivative Security				Securities Acquired			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Owne Follo
					(A) or Disposed						Repo Trans
					of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)						(Instr
					4, and 3)				Amount		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	or Number of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Nichols Michael L C/O KEY TECHNOLOGY, INC. 150 AVERY STREET WALLA WALLA, WA 99362

Senior Director of R&D

Signatures

/s/ Michael L.

Nichols 03/16/2012

**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) Delivery of shares to Company to satisfy tax withholding obligations in connection with lapse of restriction on 4,119 shares of restricted stock.

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.

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