

ION GEOPHYSICAL CORP  
Form 4  
August 18, 2008

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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**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 \*  
SMITH SAM K

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
2105 CITYWEST  
BOULEVARD, SUITE 400  
  
(Street)

HOUSTON, TX 77042-2839

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
ION GEOPHYSICAL CORP [IO]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
08/14/2008

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

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                    | 08/14/2008                           |  | M                              |   | 30,000  | A  | \$ 10 68,949  |
| Common Stock                    | 08/14/2008                           |  | M                              |   | 20,000  | A  | \$ 7.5625 88,949                                      |
| Common Stock                    | 08/14/2008                           |  | M                              |   | 10,000  | A  | \$ 5.25 98,949  |
| Common Stock                    | 08/14/2008                           |  | M                              |   | 10,000  | A  | \$ 8.5 108,949  |
| Common Stock                    | 08/14/2008                           |  | M                              |   | 10,000  | A  | \$ 8.45 118,949                                       |

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|              |            |   |         |   |            |           |   |
|--------------|------------|---|---------|---|------------|-----------|---|
| Common Stock | 08/14/2008 | M | 10,000  | A | \$ 4.35    | 128,949   | D |
| Common Stock | 08/14/2008 | M | 10,000  | A | \$ 4.11    | 1,389,491 | D |
| Common Stock | 08/14/2008 | M | 12,500  | A | \$ 6.75    | 151,449   | D |
| Common Stock | 08/14/2008 | M | 12,500  | A | \$ 7.76    | 163,949   | D |
| Common Stock | 08/14/2008 | S | 125,000 | D | \$ 16.0153 | 38,949    | 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.**

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(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-employee option (right-to-buy)         | \$ 10  | 08/14/2008                           |  | M                              | 30,000  | <sup>(1)</sup> 06/01/2009                                | Common Stock  |
| Non-employee option (right-to-buy)         | \$ 7.5625  | 08/14/2008                           |  | M                              | 20,000  | 05/31/2000 06/28/2009                                    | Common Stock  |
| Non-employee option (right-to-buy)         | \$ 5.25  | 08/14/2008                           |  | M                              | 10,000  | <sup>(2)</sup> 11/01/2019                                | Common Stock  |
| Non-employee option (right-to-buy)         | \$ 8.5   | 08/14/2008                           |  | M                              | 10,000  | 11/01/2001 11/01/2020                                    | Common Stock  |
| Non-employee option (right-to-buy)         | \$ 8.45  | 08/14/2008                           |  | M                              | 10,000  | 11/01/2001 11/01/2021                                    | Common Stock  |

