Cowie James J Form 4 February 08, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number: January 31,

OMB APPROVAL

Check this box if no longer STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to **SECURITIES** Section 16.

Expires: 2005 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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 ** Cowie James J | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CADENCE DESIGN SYSTEMS INC [CDNS] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | |
|--|------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|--|
| (Last) 2655 SEELY | (First) AVENUE, | (Middle) BLDG 5 | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/06/2012 | Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below) Sr.VP, General Counsel | | |
| SAN JOSE, C | (Street) | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acc | quired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | |

| | (City) | (State) | Tabl | e I - Non-D | erivative (| Securi | ities Acqu | iired, Disposed of | , or Beneficiall | y Owned |
|------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|---------------|------------------|-------------|--|---|---|
| Secu | tle of arity (ar. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. 4. Securities Acquire Transaction(A) or Disposed of (Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) | | | of (D) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | Code V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | (Instr. 4) | |
| Cor Sto | nmon ck | 02/06/2012 | | A | 30,000 (1) | A | \$0 | 149,822 | D | |
| Cor | nmon ck | 02/06/2012 | | F(3) | 2,784 | D | \$ 11.62 | 147,038 | D | |
| Cor | nmon ck | 02/08/2012 | | F(3) | 2,468 | D | \$ 11.76 | 144,570 | D | |
| Cor | nmon ck | 02/08/2012 | | F(3) | 1,834 | D | \$ 11.76 | 142,736 | D | |

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)

| 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) | 5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amou Underlying Secur (Instr. 3 and 4) | |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---|--|--------------------|---|---------------------------|
| ` | Derivative Security | | , , , | | or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | | | | |
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amo or Num of Sh |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 11.62 | 02/06/2012 | | A | 80,000 | (2) | 02/06/2019 | Common Stock | 80,0 |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Cowie James J

2655 SEELY AVENUE, BLDG 5 Sr.VP, General Counsel

SAN JOSE, CA 95134

Signatures

James J.Cowie 02/08/2012

**Signature of 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) Grant of performance bases incentive stock.
- (2) Option vests at a rate of 1/48th per month.
- (3) Shares withheld to satisfy tax obligations arising out of vesting 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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