

MCGARITY KEVIN J
 Form 4
 May 15, 2012

FORM 4

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

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).

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 *
 MCGARITY KEVIN J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 ALTERA CORP [ALTR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 101 INNOVATION DRIVE
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 05/13/2012

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

SAN JOSE, CA 95134

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | Code | V Amount (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2012 | | M | 1,666 | A \$ 0 | 11,667 | D | |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2012 | | M | 1,667 | A \$ 0 | 13,334 | D | |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2012 | | M | 1,037 | A \$ 0 | 14,371 | D | |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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 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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Restricted Stock Unit (RSU) | (1) | 05/13/2012 | | M | 1,666 | 05/13/2012 (2) | Common Stock | 1,666 |
| Restricted Stock Unit (RSU) | (1) | 05/13/2012 | | M | 1,667 | 05/13/2012 (3) | Common Stock | 1,667 |
| Restricted Stock Unit (RSU) | (1) | 05/13/2012 | | M | 1,037 | 05/13/2012 (4) | Common Stock | 1,037 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| MCGARITY KEVIN J 101 INNOVATION DRIVE SAN JOSE, CA 95134 | X | | | |

Signatures

KEVIN
MCGARITY 05/15/2012

**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) Each Restricted Stock Unit ("RSU") represents a contingent right to receive at settlement one share of Altera common stock at no cost.
- (2) On May 12, 2009, the reporting person received a grant of RSUs that vest over a three-year period beginning on May 13, 2010. One third of the RSUs vested on May 13, 2012 and shares were delivered to the reporting person on May 14, 2012.
- (3) On May 6, 2010, the reporting person received a grant of RSUs that vest over a three-year period beginning on May 13, 2011. One third of the RSUs vested on May 13, 2012 and shares were delivered to the reporting person on May 14, 2012.

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- (4) On May 10, 2011, the reporting person received a grant of RSUs that vest over a three-year period beginning on May 13, 2012. One third of the RSUs vested on May 13, 2012 and shares were delivered to the reporting person on May 14, 2012.

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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