

DELTA APPAREL INC  
Form 3  
March 15, 2006

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * |         | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement | 3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol                         |  |
| Merrill Deborah H                         |         | (Month/Day/Year)                     | DELTA APPAREL INC [DLA]  |  |
| (Last)                                    | (First) | (Middle)                             | 03/10/2006   |  |
| 2750 PREMIERE PARKWAY, SUITE 100          |         |                                      | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer                           | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)                   |
| (Street)                                  |         |                                      | (Check all applicable)   |  |
| DULUTH, GA 30097                          |         |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner       | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)             |
| (City)                                    | (State) | (Zip)                                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person |
|   |         |                                      | (give title below) (specify below)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person  |
|   |         |                                      | VP Chief Accounting Officer  |  |

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security<br>(Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned<br>(Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership<br>(Instr. 5) |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value      | 6,000  | D   |  |

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**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.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

| 1. Title of Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 4) | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:<br>Direct (D) | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership<br>(Instr. 5) |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|
|   | Date Exercisable  | Title  |  |   |  |

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|                             | Expiration Date                      | Amount or Number of Shares                       | or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Stock Option - Right to Buy | 07/05/2005 <sup>(1)</sup> 07/05/2014 | Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value<br>2,000 \$ 11.275 | D Â                        |
| Stock Option - Right to Buy | 07/05/2006 <sup>(2)</sup> 07/03/2015 | Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value<br>12,000 \$ 13.35 | D Â                        |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |                               |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                       | Other |
| Merrill Deborah H<br>2750 PREMIERE PARKWAY<br>SUITE 100<br>DULUTH, GA 30097 | Â             | Â         | Â VP Chief Accounting Officer | Â     |

## Signatures

/s/ Merrill,  
Deborah H. 03/14/2006

Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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 option is 100% vested and exercisable on the first anniversary of the date of grant.
- (2) This option vests 25% per year beginning on the first anniversary of the date of grant.

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.