

AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD  
 Form 4  
 May 21, 2008

**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 \*  
 CHARMAN JOHN

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD  
 [AXS]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LIMITED, 92 PITTS BAY ROAD

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 05/20/2008

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 CEO, President & Deputy Chair

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

PEMBROKE, D0 HM 08

(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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Shares	05/20/2008		A	V Amount (A) or (D) Price	1,000,000 A 1,632,064	D	
Common Shares					497,704 (2)	I	By N.I.M.I.C. International Ltd.
Common Shares					1,804,908 (3)	I	By Dragon Holdings Trust

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)

Table with columns: 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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5), 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 3 and 4), 10. Amount or Number of Shares.

Reporting Owners

Table with columns: Reporting Owner Name / Address, Relationships (Director, 10% Owner, Officer, Other). Entry for CHARMAN JOHN, AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LIMITED, 92 PITTS BAY ROAD, PEMBROKE, D0 HM 08, Director (marked X), CEO, President & Deputy Chair.

Signatures

Richard T. Gieryn, Jr., Attorney-in-Fact, 05/21/2008. \*\*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) Grant of Restricted Stock.
(2) Mr. Charman disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares held by N.I.M.I.C. International Ltd. (formerly known as the JR Charman Children's Settlement).
(3) Mr. Charman disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares held by the Dragon Holdings Trust.

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.