

ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS INC
 Form 4
 May 17, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
BARRATT CRAIG H

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 5480 GREAT AMERICA PARKWAY

(Street)

SANTA CLARA,, CA 95054

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS INC [ATHR]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 05/17/2006

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	05/17/2006		M		40,000	A	\$ 1.72
Common Stock					2,250	I	See Footnote (1)
Common Stock					2,250	I	See Footnote (1)

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

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These shares are held in trust for the benefit of the reporting person's son. The reporting person's brother-in-law is the trustee of the trust. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities, and the filing of this report is not an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of these securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

- (2) All of the options became exercisable on 4/10/2002. The shares underlying the options are subject to the issuer's right of repurchase that lapsed as to 25% of the shares on 4/1/2003, and lapses as to the remaining shares in 36 equal monthly installments beginning on 5/1/2003.

- (3) All of the options became exercisable on 4/9/2003. The shares underlying the options are subject to the issuer's right of repurchase that lapsed as to 25% of the shares on 2/23/2004, and lapses as to the remaining shares in 36 equal monthly installments beginning on 3/23/2004.

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.