

PAPA GEORGE A  
Form 4  
February 23, 2010

**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 \*  
PAPA GEORGE A

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

SAN JOSE, CA 95134

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
02/19/2010

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

Sr VP, Worldwide Sales

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

\_X\_ 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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Code V Amount (D) Price   |  |   |

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

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(9-02)

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of Derivative Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|

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| (Instr. 3)                  | Price of Derivative Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date           | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------|--|------|---|-----|-----|------------------|---------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Restricted Stock Unit (RSU) | \$ 0 <sup>(1)</sup>          | 02/19/2010       | A          | 10,500   |      |   |     |     | <sup>(2)</sup>   | 02/19/2020 <sup>(2)</sup> | Common Stock | 10,500 <sup>(3)</sup>      |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                              | Relationships |           |                        |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                | Other |
| PAPA GEORGE A<br>101 INNOVATION DRIVE<br>SAN JOSE, CA 95134 |               |           | Sr VP, Worldwide Sales |       |

## Signatures

George A. Papa                      02/23/2010

          Signature of                      Date  
Reporting Person

## 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 represents a contingent right to receive one share of Altera common stock at no cost.
- (2) Subject to the reporting person's continuing employment and the other terms of the RSU agreement, twenty-five percent of the Restricted Stock Unit shall vest each year beginning July 31, 2011. Vested shares will be delivered to the reporting person on each vest date.
- (3) Represents a grant of Restricted Stock Units subject only to service-vesting requirements. Does not include performance-based restricted stock units, if any, held by the reporting person for which a certification has not yet been made regarding the achievement of the applicable performance goals. Any such grants will be reported on Form 4 within two business days of the date such certification is made.

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.