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CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP

Form 8-K October 25, 2005

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 25, 2005

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 0-18630 95-4274680 (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) (Commission (IRS Employer File Number) Identification No.)

777 North Broadway, Los Angeles, California 90012 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (213) 625-4700

Not Applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- [] Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- [] Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- [] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- [] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

ITEM 8.01 OTHER EVENTS

On October 25, 2005, Cathay General Bancorp announced, in a press release, that it has exercised options to purchase 41% of the outstanding stock of Great Eastern Bank. Closing of the purchase of Great Eastern Bank stock pursuant to the stock options is subject to the receipt of the necessary regulatory approvals and the satisfaction or waiver by Cathay General Bancorp of other conditions to closing. That press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

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ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(c) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release of Cathay General Bancorp dated October 25, 2005.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Date: October 25, 2005

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP

By: /s/ Heng W. Chen

Heng W. Chen

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Number	Exhibit
99.1	Press Release of Cathay General Bancorp dated October 25, 2005.