Blankenship George Form 3 October 08, 2010

### 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 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person \* Statement TESLA MOTORS INC [TSLA] A Blankenship George (Month/Day/Year) 10/06/2010 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 3500 DEER CREEK ROAD (Check all applicable) (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) Director 10% Owner \_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Officer \_X\_ Other Person PALO ALTO, CAÂ 94304 (give title below) (specify below) Form filed by More than One VP Sales and Service Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 2. Amount of Securities 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security Beneficially Owned Ownership (Instr. 4) Ownership (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) D Â Common Stock 200 Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a

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

currently valid OMB control number.

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	•		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of	5. Ownership Form of Derivative	Ownership
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of	Derivative Security	Security: Direct (D) or Indirect	

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				Shares		(I) (Instr. 5)	
Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)	(1)	06/11/2017	Common Stock	28,228	\$ 14.17	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	(2)	06/11/2017	Common Stock	105,072	\$ 14.17	D	Â
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	(3)	09/13/2020	Common Stock	25,000	\$ 20.72	D	Â

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
<b>F</b>	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
Blankenship George 3500 DEER CREEK ROAD PALO ALTO, CA 94304	Â	Â	Â	VP Sales and Service	

## **Signatures**

George Blankenship	10/08/2010			
**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) 1/4th of the shares subject to the option become vested and exercisable one year from hire date and 1/48th of the shares subject to the option shall become vested and exercisable each month thereafter.
- 33,300 shares subject to the option become vested and exercisable upon the Issuer's achievement of certain performance objectives set (2) forth in the option agreement. The remaining 71,772 shares vest as follows: 1/4th of the shares subject to the option vest one year from hire date, and the remaining 3/4th vest monthly thereafter at a rate of 1/48th per month.
- (3) 1/48th of the shares subject to the option vest monthly from the vesting commencement date and continue to vest each month thereafter for four years.

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.

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