

CATERPILLAR INC
Form 4
December 11, 2008

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
OWENS JAMES W

(Last) (First) (Middle)
100 N.E. ADAMS STREET
(Street)

PEORIA, IL 61629-7230

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
CATERPILLAR INC [CAT]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/10/2008

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)
Chairman of the Board/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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount or Price		
Common	12/10/2008		M		3,208 A \$ 31.1719	D	
Common	12/10/2008		F		2,276 D \$ 43.925	D	
Common	12/10/2008		M		96,792 A \$ 31.1719	D	
Common	12/10/2008		F		79,775 D \$ 43.925	D	
Common						I	Held in Revocable Trust
Common						I	Grandchildren's Trust

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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 (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)	Amount or Number of Shares
Phantom Stock Units	(2)					(3) (3)	Common	6,617
Employee Stock Option (4)	\$ 31.1719	12/10/2008		M	3,208	(5) 06/08/2009	Common	3,208
Employee Stock Option (4)	\$ 31.1719	12/10/2008		M	96,792	(5) 06/08/2009	Common	96,792

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
OWENS JAMES W 100 N.E. ADAMS STREET PEORIA, IL 61629-7230	X		Chairman of the Board/CEO	

Signatures

James W. Owens; L.J. Huxtable,
POA 12/11/2008

**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) This amount includes 30,337 shares in 401K.

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- (2) Security converts to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- (3) The reported phantom stock units were acquired under Caterpillar Inc.'s deferred employee investment plan and will be settled upon the reporting person's retirement or separation from service.
- (4) (Right to buy) with tandem tax withholding rights.
- (5) Exercisable in thirds - 1/3 after 1 yr.; 1/3 after 2 yrs.; 1/3 after 3 yrs.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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