HILTON STEVEN J

Form 4

February 23, 2005

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB

OMB APPROVAL

Number:

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See Instruction

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

Section 16.

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading HILTON STEVEN J Issuer Symbol Meritage Homes CORP [MTH] (Check all applicable) (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) _X__ Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify 8501 E. PRINCESS DRIVE, SUITE 02/18/2005 below) below) 290 Co-CEO (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85255 Person

(City)	(State) (Z	Zip) Table	e I - Non-D	erivative S	ecuritie	s Acq	quired, Disposed o	of, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securit	ies Acqu	uired	5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction(A) or Disposed of			Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect	
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	(D)			Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3, 4	4 and 5)		Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership
							Following	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)
					(4)		Reported		
					(A)		Transaction(s)		
			Code V	Amount	or (D) I	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
MTH									**
Common Stock	02/18/2005		G	15,000	D 0	<u>(1)</u>	2,027,194 (2)	I	Held by Trust

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)			ate	7. Title Amoun Under	int of lying ities	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene
	Derivative Security				Securities Acquired			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Owne Follo
					(A) or Disposed						Repo Trans
					of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)						(Instr
					4, and 3)				Amount		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	or Number of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
reporting o where there is a real constant of	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
HILTON STEVEN J 8501 E. PRINCESS DRIVE SUITE 290 SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85255	X		Co-CEO				

Signatures

/s/ Steven J.
Hilton

**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) Mr. Hilton is gifting 15,000 shares of MTH to a charitable foundation.
- On January 7, 2005, the common stock of Meritage Homes Corporation split 2-for-1, resulting in the reporting person's acquisition of 1,021,097 additional shares of common stock.

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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