SMITH TONY Form 4 August 24, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

2005 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

OMB APPROVAL

Expires:

3235-0287

January 31,

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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).

Stock

(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 **SMITH TONY** Issuer Symbol COVENANT TRANSPORTATION (Check all applicable) **GROUP INC [CVTI]** (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) 400 BIRMINGHAM HIGHWAY 08/22/2012 President of Subsidiary (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 CHATTANOOGA, TN 37419 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 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 Indirect (I) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Class A 20,000 $A^{(1)}$ Common \$0 D 08/22/2012 77,357 (1) Stock Class A Common 10,000 $D^{(2)}$

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

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

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Title	and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	TransactionNumber		Expiration D	ate	Amoun	t of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Underly	ying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8) Derivative		e		Securit	ies	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities Acquired			(Instr. 3	3 and 4)		Own
	Security										Follo
	•				(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									A manuat		
									Amount		
					Date	Date	Expiration	Or Title Nesselves			
						Exercisable Date	Date		Number		
				C + V	(A) (D)				of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Officer Other Director 10% Owner

SMITH TONY 400 BIRMINGHAM HIGHWAY CHATTANOOGA, TN 37419

President of Subsidiary

Signatures

/s/ Tony Smith, by Heidi Hornung-Scherr, attorney-in-fact, pursuant to a POA previously filed with the SEC

08/24/2012

**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).
- Represents a restricted stock award under the 2006 Omnibus Incentive Plan. The award is subject to certain performance vesting and **(1)** forfeiture provisions.
- (2) Shares owned jointly by Mr. Smith and his wife as joint tenants with rights of survivorship.

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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