

AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD  
 Form 4  
 November 10, 2010

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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 \*  
**FISCHER WILLIAM A**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD  
 [AXS]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**92 PITTS BAY ROAD**  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**11/09/2010**

\_\_\_\_ Director  
 Officer (give title below)  
 \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
**CEO and Pres, AXIS Re**

**PEMBROKE, D0 HM 08**

(City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

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)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
Common Shares	11/09/2010		M	80,000	A \$ 14.5	383,416	D
Common Shares	11/09/2010		S	80,000	D \$ 35.3979	303,416	D
Common Shares	11/09/2010		S	35,669	D \$ 35.3979	267,747	D
Common Shares	11/09/2010		S	1,323	D \$ 35.3979	266,424	D

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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	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	
Employee Stock Option	\$ 14.5	11/09/2010		M	80,000	(4)	12/11/2012	Common	80,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
FISCHER WILLIAM A 92 PITTS BAY ROAD PEMBROKE, D0 HM 08			CEO and Pres, AXIS Re	

## Signatures

Richard T. Gieryn, Jr.,  
Attorney-in-Fact

11/10/2010

\_\_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) The 80,000 shares are included within the trades listed on Exhibit 1.
- (2) The 35,669 shares are included within the trades listed on Exhibit 1.
- (3) The 1,323 shares are included within the trades listed on Exhibit 1.
- (4) The Employee Stock Option vested in three equal installments commencing December 12, 2002.
- (5) Grant of Employee Stock Option.

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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