

STROPKI JOHN M
Form 4
December 05, 2008

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2005
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
STROPKI JOHN M

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS INC [LECO]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
12/03/2008

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
Chairman, President and CEO

CLEVELAND, OH 44117-1199
(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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V Amount (D) Price | | | |
| Common Shares | 12/03/2008 | | A | 17,540 A \$ 0 (1) | 46,828 | D | |
| Common Shares | | | | | 103.615 (2) | I | by Trust |
| Common Shares | | | | | 11,828.596 (3) | I | 401(k) Plan |
| Common Shares | | | | | 28,661.833 | I | SPP |

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

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SEC 1474
(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 | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 43.97 | 12/03/2008 | | A | 41,360 | <u>(4)</u> | 12/03/2018 | Common Shares | 41,360 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| STROPKI JOHN M 22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE CLEVELAND, OH 44117-1199 | X | | Chairman, President and CEO | |

Signatures

/s/ Jennifer I. Ansberry, Jennifer I. Ansberry as Attorney-in-Fact for John M. Stropki, Jr.

12/05/2008

**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) Pursuant to restricted share award.
- (2) Shares held by Elizabeth A. Stropki Trust.
- (3) Held by Trustee pursuant to The Lincoln Electric Company 401(k) plan. Holdings are reported by the plan on a unitized basis, which units represent approximately 5,058.156 shares.
- (4) Options vest in three equal annual installments commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant.

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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