

STROPKI JOHN M  
Form 4  
May 07, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 \*  
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)  
05/03/2012

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price
Common Shares	05/03/2012		M		20,000	A	\$ 11.95 187,888
Common Shares	05/03/2012		S		12,926	D	\$ 49.8613 174,962 (1)
Common Shares	05/07/2012		S		7,074	D	\$ 49.06 167,888 (2)
Common Shares							5,000 I by Spouse
Common Shares							222.844 (3) I by Trust

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Common Shares	12,411.398 (4)	I	401(k) Plan
Common Shares	80,891.913	I	SPP

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

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	
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
						Code	V	(A)	(D)
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 11.95	05/03/2012		M	20,000	10/08/2006	10/08/2013	Common Shares	20,000

### 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. 05/07/2012

\_\_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).

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- (1) This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$49.820 to \$50.00. The price reported reflects the weighted average sale price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request to the SEC staff, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transaction was effected.
- (2) This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$49.02 to \$49.16. The price reported reflects the weighted average sale price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request to the SEC staff, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transaction was effected.
- (3) Shares held by Elizabeth A. Stropki Trust.
- (4) Held by trustee pursuant to The Lincoln Electric Company 401(k) plan. Holdings are reported on a unitized basis, which amount represents approximately 10,400.961 shares.

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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