

HART ROBERT M  
Form 5  
January 16, 2009

**FORM 5**

**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).  
Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

**ANNUAL 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
HART ROBERT M  
  
(Last) (First) (Middle)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
ALLEGHANY CORP /DE [Y]

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

ALLEGHANY CORPORATION, 7 TIMES SQUARE TOWER, 17TH FLOOR  
  
(Street)

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)  
12/31/2008

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
SVP, General Counsel and Sec.

NEW YORK, NY 10036  
  
(City) (State) (Zip)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting  
  
(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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	04/03/2008	^	G	4,000 D \$ (1) 12,160 (2)	D	^	
Common Stock	12/18/2008	^	G	45 D \$ (3) 12,115	D	^	
Common Stock	04/07/2008	^	G	4,000 D \$ (4) 4,000	I	By Trust	

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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)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. of D Se B O E Is F (I
						Date Exercisable (A)	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
HART ROBERT M ALLEGHANY CORPORATION 7 TIMES SQUARE TOWER, 17TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10036	Â	Â	Â SVP, General Counsel and Sec.	Â

## Signatures

Robert M. Hart                      01/16/2009  
 \_\_Signature of                      Date  
 Reporting Person

## 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) Gift to spouse
- (2) Includes shares of Common Stock paid by Alleghany Corporation as a stock dividend on April 25, 2008 to stockholders of record on April 1, 2008.
- (3) Gift of shares of Alleghany common stock to non-family member third party for no consideration.
- (4) Gift by spouse of reporting person to a trust of which the reporting person is the trustee.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.