

MIDDLEBY CORP  
 Form 4  
 May 16, 2006

**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 \*  
**OBRIEN GORDON**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O THE MIDDLEBY CORPORATION, 1400 TOASTMASTER DR

(Street)

ELGIN, IL 60120

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**MIDDLEBY CORP [MIDD]**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 05/12/2006

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

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)		
				(A) or (D)	Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price

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	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4. Transaction	5. Number of	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying
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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/Year)	Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)				
			Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Option to Buy <u>(1)</u>	\$ 88.43 <u>(1)</u>	05/12/2006	A	<u>(1)</u>			05/12/2006 <u>(1)</u>	05/12/2016 <u>(1)</u>	common stock	500 <u>(1)</u>

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
OBRIEN GORDON C/O THE MIDDLEBY CORPORATION 1400 TOASTMASTER DR ELGIN, IL 60120	X			

## Signatures

Martin M.  
Lindsay POA

05/16/2006

    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) Option to buy common stock was granted on May 12, 2006. Exercise price of option grant is equal to the closing price of Middleby common stock on the date of grant. Option grant expires in 10 years.

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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