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COSTCO WHOLESALE CORP / NEW

Form 4

March 21, 2005

FORM 4

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

OMB APPROVAL

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

January 31, Expires: 2005 Estimated average

0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

burden hours per response...

See Instruction

1(b).

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 *

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

SINEGAL JAMES D

COSTCO WHOLESALE CORP /NEW [COST]

(Check all applicable)

(Last)

(First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

X Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify

999 LAKE DRIVE

(Month/Day/Year) 03/17/2005

below) President and CEO

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person

Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

ISSAQUAH, WA 98027-8990

(Street)

| (City) | (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, | | | | | red, Disposed of, | l, 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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8) | omr Dispose | Securities Acquired (A) r Disposed of (D) nstr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | Code V | Amount | or (D) | Price | (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | |
| Common Stock | 03/17/2005 | | M | 100,000 | A | \$ 6.6563 | 913,926 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 03/17/2005 | | S | 100,000 | D | \$ 0 (1) | 813,926 | D | | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 1,942,143 | I | By LLC | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 230 | I | By GRAT | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 230 | I | By Spouse's GRAT | |

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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 orDerivative 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) | |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|---------|--|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| | | | | Code V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount of Number of Shares |
| Stock Option | \$ 6.6563 | 03/17/2005 | | M | | 100,000 | 05/26/1995 | 05/25/2005 | Common Stock | 100,000 |

Reporting Owners

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SINEGAL JAMES D

999 LAKE DRIVE X President and CEO

ISSAQUAH, WA 98027-8990

Signatures

James D Sinegal 03/21/2005

**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).

Number of Shares Price 700@ \$44.3400 3,736@ \$44.1854 100@ \$44.3500 3,100@ \$44.2648 1,780@ \$44.3900 5,200@ \$44.2263 76@ \$44.3200 87@ \$44.1200 20@ \$44.3400 3,800@ \$44.2861 2,100@ \$44.3300 188@ \$44.1400 700@ \$44.4000 300@ \$44.3700 100@ \$44.3200 153@ \$44.1800 2,100@ \$44.3576 100@ \$44.3800 2,532@ \$44.1000 186@ \$44.1700 4,678@ \$44.1498 1,254@ \$44.2300

(1) 100@ \$44.3100 200@ \$44.1800 4,400@ \$44.3098 100@ \$44.2800 2,116@ \$44.2338 100@ \$44.1900 3,376@ \$44.2285 4,342@ \$44.1726 58@ \$44.2400 18@ \$44.1000 2,100@ \$44.2824 100@ \$44.2200 14,957@ \$44.1100 7,796@ \$44.0957 100@ \$44.2900 11,155@ \$44.1200 100@ \$44.3000 3,400@ \$44.1300 1,930@ \$44.1205 3,686@ \$44.3198 200@ \$44.3100 114@ \$44.3400 200@ \$44.3300 100@ \$44.2900 1,100@ \$44.3264 100@ \$44.3300 5,062@ \$44.2257

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

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