

COSTCO WHOLESALE CORP /NEW

Form SC 13G

February 14, 2006

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

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No.)

COSTCO CO. INC.
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock
(Title of Class of Securities)

22160K105
(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2005
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- /x/ Rule 13d-1(b)
- / / Rule 13d-1(c)
- / / Rule 13d-1(d)

* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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 control number.

Page 1 of 5 pages

1. Names of Reporting Persons and I.R.S. Identification No.

UBS AG (for the benefit and on behalf of the Traditional Investments division of the UBS Global Asset Management business group of UBS AG (see Item 7))

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group

a / /

Edgar Filing: COSTCO WHOLESALE CORP /NEW - Form SC 13G

b / / See Item 8 of attached schedule

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization

Switzerland

Number of	5. Sole Voting Power	14,244,511
Shares Bene-	6. Shared Voting Power	0
ficially	7. Sole Dispositive Power	0
Owned by Each	8. Shared Dispositive Power	25,573,299

Reporting
Person With:

9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting
Person:

25,573,299 Shares*

10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row 9 Excludes Certain
Shares / /

11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row 9

5.3%

12. Type of Reporting Person

BK, HC

UBS AG disclaims beneficial ownership of such securities pursuant To Rule 13d-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. In accordance with SEC Release No. 34-395-538 (January 12, 1998), this filing reflects the securities beneficially owned by the Traditional Investments division of the UBS Global Asset Management business group of UBS AG and its subsidiaries and affiliates (collectively, UBS). This filing does not reflect securities, if any, beneficially owned by any other division or business group of UBS.

Page 2 of 5 pages

Cusip 22160K105

Item 1(a). Name of Issuer:
COSTCO CO. INC.

Item 1(b). Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

10809 120TH Avenue N E
Kirkland, WA 98033

Edgar Filing: COSTCO WHOLESALE CORP /NEW - Form SC 13G

Item 2(a) Name of Persons Filing:
UBS AG

Item 2(b) Address of Principal Business Office or, if none,
Residence:

UBS AG's principal business office is:
Bahnhofstrasse 45
PO Box CH-8021
Zurich, Switzerland

Item 2(c) Citizenship:
Incorporated by reference to Item 4 of the cover pages.

Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities:
Common Stock (the "Common Stock")

Item 2(e) CUSIP Number:
22160K105

Item 3. Type of Person Filing:

UBS AG is classified as a Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6)
of the Act pursuant to no action relief granted by the staff
of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Item 4 (a)-(c)(iv). Ownership:
Incorporated by reference to Items 5-11 of the cover pages.

Page 3 of 5 pages

Cusip 22160K105

Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as
of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the
beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of
securities, check the following / /.

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of
Another Person:

Accounts managed on a discretionary basis by the UBS Global
Asset Management business group of UBS AG have the right to
receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from,
or the proceeds from the sale of, the Common Stock. To the
best of our knowledge, no account holds more than 5 percent
of the outstanding Common Stock.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary
Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent
Holding Company:

Identification: UBS Global Asset Management (Americas) Inc.

Edgar Filing: COSTCO WHOLESALE CORP /NEW - Form SC 13G

(UBS Global AM)
Classification: IA

In addition to UBS Global AM, the following UBS affiliates and subsidiaries are part of the Traditional Investments division of the UBS Global Asset Management business group: UBS Global Asset Management (US) Inc., UBS Global Asset Management Trust Company, UBS Global Asset Management International Limited, UBS Global Asset Management (Canada) Co., UBS International, Inc., UBS Global Asset Management (Australia) Ltd., UBS Global Asset Management (Hong Kong) Limited, UBS (Trust & Banking) Limited, UBS Global Asset Management (Japan) Ltd., UBS Global Asset Management (Singapore) Ltd., UBS Global Asset Management (Taiwan) Ltd., UBS Global Asset Management (France) SA, UBS Global Asset Management (Deutschland) GmbH, UBS Global Asset Management (Italia) Sim Spa, UBS Fund Services (Luxembourg) S.A., UBS Espana S.A., UBS (Cayman Islands) Ltd., UBS Fund Management (Switzerland) AG, UBS Global Asset Management (UK) Ltd.

Item 8 Identification and Classification of Members of the Group:

UBS AG is reporting direct and indirect beneficial ownership of holdings. None of the reporting persons affirm the existence of a group within the meaning of Rule 13d-5(b)(1).

Page 4 of 5 pages

Cusip 22160K105

Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of Group:

Not Applicable

Item 10 Certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: February 14, 2006

UBS AG

By: /s/ Per Dyrvik

Edgar Filing: COSTCO WHOLESALE CORP /NEW - Form SC 13G

Per Dyrvik, Managing Director

By: /s/ Teresa Ressel
Teresa Ressel, Managing Director

Page 5 of 5 pages