ROWE JOHN W Form 4 February 23, 2006

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per response...

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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

See Instruction 30(n) of the Investment Comp

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * ROWE JOHN W			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol AETNA INC /PA/ [AET]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check an applicable)		
			(Month/Day/Year)	X Director 10% Owner		
151 FARMINGTON AVENUE			02/21/2006	_X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)		
				Chairman		
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line)		
HARTFORD, CT 06156				_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired (A) 5. Amount of 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction or Disposed of (D) Securities Ownership Indirect (Instr. 3) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Code Beneficially Form: Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned Direct (D) Ownership Following or Indirect (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common By 02/21/2006 M 173,416 A 0 Ι Stock (1) 6.5811 **GRAT** Common By 02/21/2006 M 51,584 I Stock (1) 8.7529 **GRATS** Common By 02/21/2006 $S^{(2)(3)}$ \$50 Ι 25,500 D 0 Stock **GRATS** Common By 02/21/2006 $S^{(2)(3)}$ 3,000 D \$ 50.01 0 Ι Stock **GRATS** Common By 02/21/2006 $S^{(2)(3)}$ 100 D \$ 50.02 0 I Stock **GRATS**

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Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	2,500	D	\$ 50.03 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	4,100	D	\$ 50.04 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	3,800	D	\$ 50.05 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	1,100	D	\$ 50.06 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	5,250	D	\$ 50.08 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	61,700	D	\$ 50.1 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	6,200	D	\$ 50.11 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	2,000	D	\$ 50.12 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	4,200	D	\$ 50.13 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	1,800	D	\$ 50.14 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	23,050	D	\$ 50.15 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	3,100	D	\$ 50.16 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	600	D	\$ 50.17 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	3,600	D	\$ 50.19 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	23,900	D	\$ 50.2 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	600	D	\$ 50.21 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	1,700	D	\$ 50.22 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	600	D	\$ 50.23 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	3,600	D	\$ 50.24 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	19,600	D	\$ 50.25 0	I	By GRATS
	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	300	D	\$ 50.27 0	I	

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Common Stock							By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	100	D	\$ 50.29 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	7,500	D	\$ 50.3 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	2,500	D	\$ 50.32 0	I	By GRATS
Common Stock	02/21/2006	S(2)(3)	1,300	D	\$ 50.33 0	I	By GRATS

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 ctionDerivative Securities 8) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		D)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amoun Numbe Shares
Employee Stock Option (1)	\$ 6.5811	02/21/2006		M		173,416	09/15/2001	09/15/2010	Common Stock	173,4
Employee Stock Option (1)	\$ 8.7529	02/21/2006		M		51,584	09/15/2001	09/15/2010	Common Stock	51,58

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
rioporonig o mior riumo / riumoso	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
ROWE JOHN W							
151 FARMINGTON AVENUE	X		Chairman				
HARTFORD, CT 06156							

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Signatures

John W. Rowe by Paige L. Falasco, Attorney-in-Fact

02/23/2006

**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) On February 17, 2006, Aetna Inc.'s Common Stock was split 2-for-1, resulting in the reporting person's acquisition of additional options and shares of Common Stock.
- (2) The sale reported was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b-5 trading plan adopted by the John W. Rowe 2004 GRAT on October 6, 2005 and a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the John W. Rowe 2003 GRAT on October 6, 2005.
- (3) THIS IS FORM 1 OF 2. The number of individual Table I line entries making up the sale reported exceeds the EDGAR system's limitations and, therefore, this filing is being made in two parts.

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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