

CATERPILLAR INC
Form 4
December 11, 2008

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
OBERHELMAN DOUGLAS R

(Last) (First) (Middle)

100 N.E. ADAMS STREET

(Street)

PEORIA, IL 61629-7220

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
CATERPILLAR INC [CAT]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/10/2008

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)
Group President

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price
Common	12/10/2008		M		3,208	A	\$ 31.1719
Common	12/10/2008		F		2,276	D	\$ 43.925
Common	12/10/2008		M		38,792	A	\$ 31.1719
Common	12/10/2008		F		31,972	D	\$ 43.925

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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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)		
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Phantom Stock Units	(2)					(3)	(3)	Common	178
Employee Stock Option (4)	\$ 31.1719	12/10/2008		M	3,208	(5)	06/08/2009	Common	3,208
Employee Stock Option (4)	\$ 31.1719	12/10/2008		M	38,792	(5)	06/08/2009	Common	38,792

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
OBERHELMAN DOUGLAS R 100 N.E. ADAMS STREET PEORIA, IL 61629-7220			Group President	

Signatures

D. R. Oberhelman; L.J.
Huxtable, POA

12/11/2008

**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) This amount includes 24,408 shares in 401K and 3275 shares in dividend reinvestment.
- (2) Security converts to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- (3) The reported phantom stock units were acquired under Caterpillar Inc.'s deferred employee investment plan and will be settled upon the reporting person's retirement or separation from service.
- (4) (Right to buy) with tandem tax withholding rights.

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(5) Exercisable in thirds - 1/3 after 1 yr.; 1/3 after 2 yrs.; 1/3 after 3 yrs.

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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