

Kardish Paul J.
Form 4
June 20, 2012

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 *
Kardish Paul J.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ORION ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.
[OESX]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
2210 WOODLAND DRIVE

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
06/18/2012

____ Director
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
VP, Gen. Counsel & Secretary

MANITOWOC, WI 54220

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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 | | | |
| Common Stock | 06/18/2012 | | A ⁽¹⁾ | 6,250 A \$ 0 | 6,250 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 4,900 | I | By IRA |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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 |
| Stock Options (right to buy) | \$ 2 | 06/18/2012 | | A | 12,500 | (2) 06/18/2022 | Common Stock 12,500 |
| Stock Options (right to buy) | \$ 2.75 | | | | | (3) 11/07/2021 | Common Stock 100,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Kardish Paul J. 2210 WOODLAND DRIVE MANITOWOC, WI 54220 | | | VP, Gen. Counsel & Secretary | |

Signatures

/s/ Steven R. Barth, Attorney-in-Fact for Paul J. Kardish 06/20/2012

__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) Restricted stock granted to the reporting person under the 2004 Stock and Incentive Awards Plan. The restricted stock vests and becomes exercisable in 20% increments on June 18, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017, respectively.
- (2) Grant to reporting person of option to buy shares under the 2004 Stock and Incentive Awards Plan. This option, granted June 18, 2012, vests and becomes exercisable in 20% increments on June 18, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017, respectively.
- (3) Grant to reporting person of option to buy shares under the 2004 Stock and Incentive Awards Plan. This option, granted November 7, 2011, vests and becomes exercisable in 20% increments on November 7, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016, respectively.

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.