GATES WILLIAM H III

Form 4

February 14, 2005

FORM 4

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

burden hours per

OMB APPROVAL

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Expires: January 31, 2005
Estimated average

0.5

of

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

See Instruction

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

response...

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * GATES WILLIAM H III | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol MICROSOFT CORP [MSFT] | 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 |
| ONE MICROSOFT WAY | | | 02/10/2005 | _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) |
| | | | | Chairman of the Board |
| | (Street) | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check |
| | | | Filed(Month/Day/Year) | Applicable Line) |
| REDMOND, V | WA 98052 | | | _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 Reneficially Own

| (City) | (State) | Tat | ole I - Non- | Derivative S | Securi | ties Acqu | ired, Disposed of, o | r Beneficially | y 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) | tionor Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | Code V | Amount | or (D) | Price | (Instr. 3 and 4) | (Instr. 4) | |
| Common Stock | 02/10/2005 | | S | 25,000 | D | \$ 26.12 | 1,064,474,336 | D | |
| Common Stock | 02/10/2005 | | S | 25,000 | D | \$ 26.11 | 1,064,449,336 | D | |
| Common Stock | 02/10/2005 | | S | 263,514 | D | \$ 26.1 | 1,064,185,822 | D | |
| Common Stock | 02/10/2005 | | S | 507,981 | D | \$ 26.09 | 1,063,677,841 | D | |
| Common Stock | 02/10/2005 | | S | 327,415 | D | \$ 26.08 | 1,063,350,426 | D | |
| | 02/10/2005 | | S | 742,077 | D | | 1,062,608,349 | D | |

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| Common Stock | | | | | \$ 26.07 | | |
|-----------------|------------|---|---------|---|-------------|----------------------|---|
| Common Stock | 02/10/2005 | S | 59,013 | D | \$ 26.06 | 1,062,549,336 | D |
| Common Stock | 02/10/2005 | S | 500,000 | D | \$ 26.05 | 1,062,049,336 | D |
| Common Stock | 02/10/2005 | S | 350,000 | D | \$ 26.04 | 1,061,699,336 | D |
| Common Stock | 02/10/2005 | S | 200,000 | D | \$ 26.02 | 1,061,499,336 (1) | D |

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) | 4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, | | ate | 7. Titl Amou Under Securi (Instr. | nt of lying | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr |
|---|---|---|--|---|---------------------|--------------------|---|--|---|---|
| | | | Code V | 4, and 5) (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| reporting owner runner runners | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |
| GATES WILLIAM H III ONE MICROSOFT WAY REDMOND, WA 98052 | X | | Chairman of the Board | | | | |

Signatures

Michael Larson, on behalf of William H. Gates III. Authorized under power of attorney dated 3/14/2001 by William H. Gates III, filed on 3/19/2001 with Cascade Investment's Schedule 13D, SEC File No. 005-52919.

02/14/2005

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**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).
- In addition, there are 428,520 shares owned by reporting person's spouse. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities, and this report shall not be deemed an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of the securities for purpose of Section 16 or for any other purposes.

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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