

Straubel Jeffrey B
Form 4
January 25, 2011

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2005
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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 *
Straubel Jeffrey B

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
TESLA MOTORS INC [TSLA]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
3500 DEER CREEK ROAD

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
06/12/2010

____ Director
 Officer (give title below)
____ 10% Owner
____ Other (specify below)
CTO

PALO ALTO, CA 94304

(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 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) | Amount (D) Price | | |

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

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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 | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of Derivative Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|

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| (Instr. 3) | Price of Derivative Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Num of Sh |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------|------------|--|------|---|--------|-----|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 14.17 | 06/12/2010 | | | A | | 29,162 | | (1) | 06/11/2017 | Common Stock | 29,162 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 20.72 | 09/13/2010 | | | A | | 5,000 | | (2) | 09/13/2020 | Common Stock | 5,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Straubel Jeffrey B 3500 DEER CREEK ROAD PALO ALTO, CA 94304 | | | CTO | |

Signatures

Jeffrey Straubel 01/25/2011

__Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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 June 12, 2010, the reporting person was granted an option to purchase 116,650 shares of common stock as reported on a Form 3 filed by the reporting person on June 25, 2010. The option vests in four equal installments based on the Issuer's satisfaction of certain performance objectives set forth in the option agreement. On January 21, 2011, the Board of Directors certified that the first performance objective has been met, resulting in vesting of the option as to 29,162 shares.
- (2) On September 13, 2010, the reporting person was granted an option to purchase 20,000 shares of common stock as reported on a Form 4 filed by the reporting person on September 14, 2010. The option vests in four equal installments based on the Issuer's satisfaction of certain performance objectives set forth in the option agreement. On January 21, 2011, the Board of Directors certified that the first performance objective has been met, resulting in vesting of the option as to 5,000 shares.

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.