

Sechrist Paul F
 Form 4
 November 21, 2011

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 *
 Sechrist Paul F

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 COHERENT INC [COHR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 5100 PATRICK HENRY DR
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 11/17/2011

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 EVP Worldwide Sales & Services

SANTA CLARA,, CA 95054
 (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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V Amount (A) or (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 11/17/2011 | | M | 2,333 A \$ 0 | 13,194 | D | |
| Common Stock | 11/17/2011 | | F | 856 ⁽¹⁾ D \$ 49.75 | 12,338 | D | |
| Common Stock | 11/20/2011 | | M | 3,000 A \$ 0 | 15,338 | D | |
| Common Stock | 11/20/2011 | | F | 1,101 ⁽¹⁾ D \$ 47.97 | 14,237 | D | |

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

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(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 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) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Restricted Stock Units | \$ 0 ⁽²⁾ | 11/17/2011 | | M | 2,333 | 11/17/2011 ⁽³⁾ 11/17/2011 | Common Stock | 2,333 |
| Restricted Stock Units | \$ 0 ⁽²⁾ | 11/20/2011 | | M | 3,000 | 11/20/2011 ⁽³⁾ 11/20/2011 | Common Stock | 3,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Sechrist Paul F 5100 PATRICK HENRY DR SANTA CLARA,, CA 95054 | | | EVP Worldwide Sales & Services | |

Signatures

/s/ Bret DiMarco, General Counsel & Power of Attorney
 11/21/2011
 **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) Represents shares withheld to satisfy minimum tax withholding obligations for released restricted units.
- (2) Reporting Person received one share of common stock for each RSU that vested.
- (3) This Restricted Stock Unit award vests over three years with one third of the grant vesting on each of the subsequent anniversaries of the grant.

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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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