

BOWNE & CO INC  
 Form 4  
 December 11, 2008

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 \*  
 Beitler Elaine

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 55 WATER STREET  
 (Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10041

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 BOWNE & CO INC [BNE]

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)  
 SVP, Business Integration, Man / CIO

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)	Code V 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 Securities	8. Price
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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)	(Instr. 3 and 4)			Title	Amount or Number of Shares
			Code	V			(A)	(D)		
Option to buy Common Stock	\$ 4.045	12/10/2008	A		45,000	<u>(1)</u>		12/09/2015	Common Stock	45,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
Beitler Elaine 55 WATER STREET NEW YORK, NY 10041			SVP, Business Integration, Man	CIO	

## Signatures

Elaine Beitler by Scott Spitzer under Power of Attorney  
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) Incentive Stock Options granted under the Company's 1999 Incentive Compensation Plan. Options became exercisable in 25% increments on the first four anniversaries of the grant and expire on 12/09/2015.

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.