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ASTA FUNDING INC

Form 3

January 17, 2008

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

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *

(Last)

Curtin Mary L

(First)

(Middle)

(Zip)

Statement

(Month/Day/Year)

01/08/2008

2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

ASTA FUNDING INC [ASFI]

4. Relationship of Reporting

(Check all applicable)

Senior Vice President

Person(s) to Issuer

5. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

C/O ASTA FUNDING,

INC., 210 SYLVAN AVENUE

(Street)

Director _X__ Officer

10% Owner Other (give title below) (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person

Form filed by More than One

Reporting Person

ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS. NJÂ 07632

> (City) (State)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security

(Instr. 4)

2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

(Instr. 4)

Ownership Form:

4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership

(Instr. 5)

Direct (D) or Indirect (I)

(Instr. 5)

Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share

3,334 (1)

D

Â

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially

owned directly or indirectly.

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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.

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

2. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date**

3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying **Derivative Security**

Conversion or Exercise Price of

Ownership Form of Derivative

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership

(Instr. 5)

(Month/Day/Year)

(Instr. 4) Title

Derivative Security: Direct (D) Security

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date		Amount or Number of Shares		or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Stock options (right to buy)	(2)	11/16/2014	Common Stock	3,334	\$ 18.76	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
•	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Curtin Mary L						
C/O ASTA FUNDING, INC.	â	â	Senior Vice President	â		
210 SYLVAN AVENUE	A	А	A Sellioi vice Piesidelit	A		
ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS Â NJÂ 07632						

Signatures

/s/ Mary L.
Curtin

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) These shares vest in two equal annual installments starting on March 19, 2008.
- (2) These stock options are currently exercisable.

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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