AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD

Form 4

January 04, 2005

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

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OMB APPROVAL

response...

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

may continue.

Check this box

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

See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * SMITH HENRY B

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Issuer

Symbol

AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD

(Check all applicable)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

[AXS]

(Month/Day/Year)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

12/31/2004

(Last) (First) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

_X__ Director Officer (give title

10% Owner Other (specify

C/O AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LIMITED, 106 PITTS BAY ROAD

(Middle)

(Zip)

(Street)

(State)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

PEMBROKE, D0 HM 08

(City)

(City)	(State) (2	Table	: I - Non-De	erivative S	Securi	ties Ac	quired, Disposed o	of, or Beneficial	lly Owned
1.Title of Security	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if	3. Transactio	4. Securi		or	5. Amount of Securities	6. Ownership Form: Direct	7. Nature of Indirect
(Instr. 3)	(Manual Buly 1 cur)	any	Code	Disposed of (D)			Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership
					(A)		Reported Transaction(s)	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)
			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Shares	12/31/2004		A	540	A	<u>(1)</u>	992	D	
Common Shares	01/03/2005		A	728	A	<u>(2)</u>	1,720	D	
Common Shares	01/03/2005		A	1,931	A	<u>(3)</u>	3,651	D	

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

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displays a currently valid OMB control

6. Date Exercisable and

7. Title and Amount of

5. Number

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

Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option for Common	\$ 27.45	01/03/2005		A	8,000	01/03/2006(4)	01/03/2015	Common Shares	8,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SMITH HENRY B

C/O AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LIMITED

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed

106 PITTS BAY ROAD PEMBROKE, D0 HM 08



Signatures

1. Title of

Shares

Carol S. Rivers, Attorney-in-Fact

**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) Common shares issued as directors' fees using the closing sale price on December 31, 2004 of \$27.35 per share.
- (2) Restricted shares issued as directors' fees using the closing sale price on January 3, 2005 of \$27.45 per share.
- (3) Common shares issued as directors' fees using the closing sale price on January 3, 2005 of \$27.45 per share.
- (4) Option vests in three equal installments on the first, second and third anniversaries of the date of grant.
- (5) Option issued as directors' fees.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Reporting Owners 2

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