

NORTHERN TRUST CORP  
Form 4  
October 26, 2004

**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 \*  
**SHORT HARRY W**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**NORTHERN TRUST CORP  
[NTRS]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**50 S. LA SALLE ST.**  
  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**10/22/2004**

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
**EVP and Controller**

**CHICAGO, IL 60675**

(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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (A) or (D) Price   |   |  |   |
| Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup>     | 10/22/2004                           |  | F                              | 2,356 <sup>(2)</sup> \$ 39.755                                    | 23,000 <sup>(3)</sup>   | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 173,667 <sup>(4)</sup>  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 40,048  | I  | By Spouse   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 2,575   | I  | Spouse for Child                                      |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 2,575   | I  | Spouse for Child                                      |



## 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 stock units payable automatically on a 1-for-1 basis in shares of the Corporation's common stock.
- (2) Stock units (2,356) withheld in payment of taxes resulting from the distribution of vested stock units as shares of common stock.
- (3) Total reflects the distribution of 8,000 stock units as shares of common stock.
- (4) Total reflects the distribution of 5,644 stock units (net of taxes) as shares of the Corporation's common stock.
- (5) as of 09/30/2004
- (6) as of 12/31/2003

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.