

LUDWIG DAVID F
 Form 4
 February 20, 2018

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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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 *
 LUDWIG DAVID F

(Last) (First) (Middle)

BALCHEM CORPORATION, 52
 SUNRISE PARK ROAD

(Street)

NEW HAMPTON, NY 10958

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 BALCHEM CORP [BCPC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 02/15/2018

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director
 ____ Officer (give title below)
 ____ 10% Owner
 ____ Other (specify below)
 Vice President

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)
				(A) or (D) Code V	Amount or Price		
Common Stock	02/15/2018		A	930 ⁽¹⁾	A \$ 0	31,486	D
Common Stock	02/15/2018		A	2,719 ⁽²⁾	A \$ 0	34,205	D
Common Stock	02/15/2018		F	1,381 ⁽³⁾	D \$ 74.57	32,824	D

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

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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)	8. Title and Amount of Derivative Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
Stock Option	\$ 74.57	02/15/2018		A	3,720	(4) 02/15/2028	Common Stock	3,720

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
LUDWIG DAVID F BALCHEM CORPORATION 52 SUNRISE PARK ROAD NEW HAMPTON, NY 10958			Vice President	

Signatures

/s/ David F. Ludwig, by Attorney in Fact, Mark Stach

02/20/2018

**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) Ownership of the restricted stock does not vest in Reporting person until four years from the grant date and is further subject to restrictions on transfer in accordance with the provisions of a Restricted Stock Grant Agreement between the Issuer and the Reporting Person.

(2) Acquired upon the settlement of performance shares granted on February 19, 2018 based upon a predetermined EBITDA performance target and total shareholder return against the Russell 2000 Index over a three-year period under the Company's Second Amended and Restated 1999 Stock Plan (as amended and restated effective June 20, 2013) as a result of the satisfaction of those performance criteria.

(3) 1,381 of the 2,698 shares that vested February 15, 2018 were withheld to cover withholding taxes due upon vesting.

(4) Options vest 20% year 1; 40% year 2; and 40% year 3.

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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