

Preiss Frederick
 Form 4
 December 09, 2005

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

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 *
 Preiss Frederick

(Last) (First) (Middle)

6033 SCHUMACHER PARK
 DRIVE

(Street)

WEST CHESTER, OH 45069

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 AtriCure, Inc. [ATRC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 12/07/2005

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

___ Director ___ 10% Owner
 ___X___ Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)

Vice President; Operations

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

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.

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 (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|

Edgar Filing: Preiss Frederick - Form 4

| (Instr. 3) Price of Derivative Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Share |
|--|------------------|--|------|---|--------|-----|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 13.18 | 12/07/2005 | A | | 10,000 | | 12/07/2006 ⁽¹⁾ | 12/07/2015 | Common Stock | 10,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|----------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Preiss Frederick 6033 SCHUMACHER PARK DRIVE WEST CHESTER, OH 45069 | | | Vice President; Operations | |

Signatures

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| /s/ Thomas J. Etergino as Attorney-in-Fact for Frederick Preiss | 12/09/2005 |
| <small>**Signature of Reporting Person</small> | <small>Date</small> |

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) The option vests and is exercisable as to 25% of the shares on December 7, 2006 (one year from the date of grant) and the remaining 75% thereafter vests and is exercisable in equal monthly installments on the same day of the month over the following three years.
- (2) Not applicable.

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.