

ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS INC  
 Form 4  
 March 17, 2006

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2005  
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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 \*  
**HENNESSY JOHN L**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS INC [ATHR]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**03/16/2006**

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

**C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 5480 GREAT AMERICA PARKWAY**

(Street)

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

**SANTA CLARA,, CA 95054**

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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)			
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	03/16/2006		S <sup>(1)</sup>		15,000	D	\$ 23.104	312,042	I	By the 1993 Hennessy Revocable Trust
Common Stock	03/16/2006		S <sup>(1)</sup>		1,563	D	\$ 23.107	7,812	I	By Trust <sup>(2)</sup>
Common Stock	03/16/2006		S <sup>(1)</sup>		1,563	D	\$ 23.107	7,812	I	By Trust <sup>(2)</sup>

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Common Stock	03/16/2006	S <sup>(1)</sup>	1,562	D	\$ 23.107	7,813	I	By Son
Common Stock	03/16/2006	S <sup>(1)</sup>	1,562	D	\$ 23.107	7,813	I	By Son

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 (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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 5)
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
						Code	V	(A)	(D)

## Reporting Owners

### Reporting Owner Name / Address

### Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

HENNESSY JOHN L  
C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. X  
5480 GREAT AMERICA PARKWAY  
SANTA CLARA,, CA 95054

## Signatures

Bruce P. Johnson,  
Attorney-in-fact 03/17/2006

\*\*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) The sales reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan.

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These shares are held in trust for the benefit of the reporting person's son. The reporting person's sister-in-law is the trustee of the trust.

- (2) The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities, and the filing of this report is not an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of these securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

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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