

TACHNER ADAM H
Form 4
January 25, 2010

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 *
TACHNER ADAM H

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
(Check all applicable)
 Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
VP & General Counsel

(Last) (First) (Middle)
C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 5480 GREAT AMERICA PARKWAY
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
01/22/2010

SANTA CLARA,, CA 95054
(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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock | 01/22/2010 | | A | (A) or (D) Amount 15,000 (1) | \$ 0 37,631 | D | |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

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| 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. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr |
|---|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|--|
| | | | | Code V (A) (D) | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|----------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| TACHNER ADAM H C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. 5480 GREAT AMERICA PARKWAY SANTA CLARA,, CA 95054 | | | VP & General Counsel | |

Signatures

Bruce P. Johnson,
Attorney-in-fact

01/25/2010

**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).

On February 6, 2009, the Reporting Person was granted restricted stock units ("RSUs") that would vest subject to the Issuer's satisfaction of certain performance criteria for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009. The performance criteria for 2009 were met and certified by (1) the Compensation Committee of the Issuer's Board of Directors on January 22, 2010, resulting in vesting of the RSUs as follows: The RSUs will vest and be settled in shares of the Issuer's common stock over three (3) years, with the first 1/3 of the RSUs vesting on February 8, 2010 and the remaining RSUs vesting in equal quarterly installments over the following two (2) years.

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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