

AMBROSEO JOHN  
Form 4  
December 17, 2010

**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 \*  
AMBROSEO JOHN

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
COHERENT INC [COHR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
P.O. BOX 54980

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
12/15/2010

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Pres. and CEO

(Street)  
SANTA CLARA, CA 95056-0980

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

(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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount (A) or (D) Price		
Common Stock	12/15/2010		M		12,790 A \$ 23.16	101,778	D
Common Stock	12/15/2010		S		12,790 (1) D \$ 45.0184 (2)	88,988	D
Common Stock	12/16/2010		M		958 A \$ 23.16	89,946	D
Common Stock	12/16/2010		S		958 (1) D \$ 45.0221 (3)	88,988	D



## 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) Sold Pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 sales plan adopted on May 28, 2010.

(2) Represents the weighted average sales price for the shares. The range of prices for such sales was \$45.00 to \$45.10.

(3) Represents the weighted average sales price for the shares. The range of prices for such sales was \$45.00 to \$45.07.

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.