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AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD Form 4 January 21, 2009 OMB APPROVAL FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB 3235-0287 Washington, D.C. 20549 Number: Check this box January 31, Expires: if no longer 2005 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to Estimated average **SECURITIES** Section 16. burden hours per Form 4 or response... 0.5 Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction 1(b). (Print or Type Responses) 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading MORRILL MICHAEL E Issuer Symbol AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD (Check all applicable) [AXS] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner ___X__ Other (specify Officer (give title (Month/Day/Year) below) below) 430 PARK AVENUE, 4TH FLOOR 01/17/2009 CEO & President, AXIS Re US (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting NEW YORK, NY 10022 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 7. Nature of 6. Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Securities Ownership Indirect (Instr. 3) any Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Beneficially Form: Direct Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) Owned Ownership (Instr. 8) (D) or Following Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Reported (Instr. 4) (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common S 01/17/2009 F 18,731 D 213,056 D Shares 28.17 Common I 1,403 By Trust Shares Common I By GRAT 15,519 Shares

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

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number.

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. Transactii (Month/Day	y/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, any (Month/Day/Yea	Code		5. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	;	ate	Amor Unde Secur	le and unt of rlying rities r. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secu Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
Repor	rting O	wners	5		Code	V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		
•	Owner Name	Relationships											
		/ Auul CSS	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Otł	ner						

MORRILL MICHAEL E 430 PARK AVENUE 4TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10022

CEO & President, AXIS Re US

Signatures

Richard T. Gieryn, Jr., Attorney-in-Fact

**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).

01/21/2009

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.