

BOWNE & CO INC
 Form 4
 December 17, 2004

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 COOTE WILLIAM J

(Last) (First) (Middle)

BOWNE & CO., INC., 345
 HUDSON STREET

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10014

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 BOWNE & CO INC [BNE]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 12/16/2004

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)

VP & Treasurer

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 (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.

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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)

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
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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Instr. 3 and 4)					
			Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Options to buy Common Stock	\$ 15.355	12/16/2004	A		10,000 <u>(1)</u>		<u>(1)</u>	12/15/2011	common stock	10,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
COOTE WILLIAM J BOWNE & CO., INC., 345 HUDSON STREET NEW YORK, NY 10014			VP & Treasurer	

Signatures

William J. Coote by Scott L. Spitzer under Power of Attorney	12/17/2004
**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) Incentive Stock Options granted under the Company's 1999 Incentive Compensation Plan. Options became exercisable in 25% increments on the first four anniversaries of the grant.

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.