Van Bokkelen Gil Form 4 December 04, 2008

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Check this box

SECURITIES Form 5 obligations may continue.

See Instruction 1(b).

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 *

Van Bokkelen Gil Issuer Symbol ATHERSYS, INC / NEW [ATHX] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) X Director

10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify 3201 CARNEGIE AVENUE 12/02/2008 below) Chmn & Chief Executive Officer

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

(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 Person

CLEVELAND, OH 44115

(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 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) Indirect (I) Ownership (Instr. 8) Owned Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Amount (D) Price Common 12/02/2008 P 12.500 152,532 D Stock

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

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Number:

Expires:

response...

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Estimated average

burden hours per

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	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exerc		7. Titl		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Transact Code (Instr. 8)	orNumber of Derivativ Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	:		Amou Under Securi (Instr.	lying	Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	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				
Van Bokkelen Gil 3201 CARNEGIE AVENUE CLEVELAND, OH 44115	X		Chmn & Chief Executive Officer					

Signatures

/s/ Laura K. Campbell, as attorney-in-fact for Gil Van
Bokkelen
12/03/2008

**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).

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.

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