COX THOMAS Form 4 April 13, 2011

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB

OMB APPROVAL

Washington, D.C. 20549 Check this box

3235-0287 Number: January 31,

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

2005 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Expires:

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

04/11/2011

COX THOMAS			Symbol MSC INDUSTRIAL DIRECT CO INC [MSM]					Issuer (Check all applicable)			
(Last) (First) (Middle) C/O MSC INDUSTRIAL DIRECT CO., INC., 75 MAXESS ROAD			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/11/2011					Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below)			
(Street) 4. If An				Amendment, Date Original (Month/Day/Year)				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City)	(State) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned								ly Owned		
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction D (Month/Day/Yea	ar) Execution	med on Date, if Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securition(A) or Di (Instr. 3,	sposed	of (D)	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)	
Class A Common Stock, \$ 0.001 par value	04/11/2011			M	10,000	A	\$ 48.21	32,196	D		
Class A Common Stock, \$ 0.001 par value	04/11/2011			S	9,700	D	\$ 71.39	22,496	D		

S

300

D

22,196

D

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Class A	\$
Common	72.52
Stock, \$	(2)
0.001 par	
value	

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 (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)			5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exerc Expiration D (Month/Day/	ate	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Options (right to buy) (3)	\$ 48.21	04/11/2011		M	10,000	<u>(4)</u>	10/17/2014	Class A Common Stock, \$.001 par value	10,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

COX THOMAS C/O MSC INDUSTRIAL DIRECT CO., INC. 75 MAXESS ROAD MELVILLE, NY 11747

EXECUTIVE VP, SALES

Signatures

/S/ THOMAS COX 04/12/2011

**Signature of Date Reporting Person

Reporting Owners 2

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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).
- Represents the sale of 9,700 shares in 30 separate transactions, ranging from \$71.18 to \$71.60 per share, resulting in a weighted average (1) sale price per share of \$71.390. The Reporting Person undertakes to provide upon request by the SEC staff, the Issuer, or a security holder of the Issuer, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range.
- Represents the sale of 300 shares in 2 separate transactions, ranging from \$72.50 to \$72.53 per share, resulting in a weighted average sale (2) price per share of \$72.520. The Reporting Person undertakes to provide upon request by the SEC staff, the Issuer, or a security holder of the Issuer, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range.
- (3) Represents options to purchase the Issuer's Class A Common Stock, \$0.001 par value ("Common Stock").
- An option to purchase 40,000 shares of the Issuer's Common Stock was issued to the Reporting Person under the Issuer's 2005 Omnibus (4) Equity Plan. 10,000 shares of Common Stock became exercisable on each of October 18, 2008, October 18, 2009 and October 18, 2010, and an additional 10,000 shares will become exercisable on October 18, 2011.

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.