#### AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD

Form 4

January 18, 2005

### FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

OMB Number:

**OMB APPROVAL** 

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

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response...

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

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

1(b).

(City)

Common

Shares

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* **BUTT MICHAEL A** Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Issuer

AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD

(Check all applicable)

Chairman

[AXS]

(Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/13/2005

\_X\_\_ Director 10% Owner X\_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) below)

C/O AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS

(Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

A

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

LIMITED, 106 PITTS BAY ROAD (Street)

PEMBROKE, D0 HM 08

(State)

01/13/2005

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 1. Title of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3) (Month/Day/Year)

3. Transaction(A) or Disposed of Code (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Securities Form: Direct Indirect Beneficially (D) or Beneficial Ownership Owned Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Following (Instr. 4) Reported

(A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) 37,500

Price

Α

D <u>(1)</u> 398,130

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)

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of or Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)	tive Expiration Date ties (Month/Day/Year) red (A) possed of		7. Title and Amount Underlying Securition (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(Instr. 3, 4, and 5)  (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Sha
Employee Stock Option	\$ 28.02	01/13/2005		A	55,000	01/13/2006(2)	01/13/2015	Common Shares	55,0

Relationshins

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
BUTT MICHAEL A					
C/O AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LIMITED	X		Chairman		

106 PITTS BAY ROAD PEMBROKE, D0 HM 08

# **Signatures**

John R. Charman, Attorney-in-Fact 01/18/2005

\*\*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) Grant of Restricted Stock.
- (2) The Employee Stock Option vests in three equal installments on the first, second and third anniversaries of the date of grant.
- (3) Grant of Employee Stock Option.

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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