

AMERUS GROUP CO/IA

Form 4

September 09, 2005

FORM 4
UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Check this box
if no longer
subject to
Section 16.
Form 4 or
Form 5
obligations
may continue.
See Instruction
1(b).

**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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31,
2005
Estimated average
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
HEITZ MARK V

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**ONE AMVESTORS PLACE, 555 S.
KANSAS AVENUE**

(Street)

TOPEKA, KS 66601-2039

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol
AMERUS GROUP CO/IA [AMH]

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

09/07/2005

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)
President&CEO AmerUs Annuity

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 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)	
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	
Common Stock	09/07/2005	09/07/2005	S		2,800	D	\$ 57.55	31,783 D
Common Stock	09/07/2005	09/07/2005	S		274	D	\$ 57.57	31,509 D
Common Stock	09/08/2005	09/08/2005	M		26,105	A	\$ 19.15	57,614 D
Common Stock								11,338.4473 I
								401 (k) Plan

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)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 19.1478	09/08/2005	09/08/2005	M	26,105	<u>(1)</u> 03/28/2006	Common Stock	26,105

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
HEITZ MARK V ONE AMVESTORS PLACE 555 S. KANSAS AVENUE TOPEKA, KS 66601-2039	Director 10% Owner Officer Other President&CEO AmerUs Annuity

Signatures

/s/ Jeananne M. Celander, attorney-in-fact for Mr.
Heitz 09/09/2005

__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 option exempt under Rule 16b-3. The option became exercisable in increments as follows: 52,404.1664 on 12/31/1996; and 5,221.8584 on each of the following dates - 12/31/1997; 12/31/1998; 12/31/1999; 12/31/2000.
- (2) Price not applicable.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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