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PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC

Form 4

December 10, 2004

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average

OMB APPROVAL

response...

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Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * MATHRANI ARJUN K

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

Symbol

PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC [PFG]

(Check all applicable)

(Last)

711 HIGH STREET

(First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

_X__ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify

(Month/Day/Year)

12/08/2004

below) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person _ Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

DES MOINES, IA 50392

(City) (State) (Zip)

(Street)

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

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

3. Execution Date, if Code

(Instr. 8)

4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Disposed of (D)

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (I)

(Instr. 4)

(Instr. 4)

(A)

Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

or Code V Amount (D) Price

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

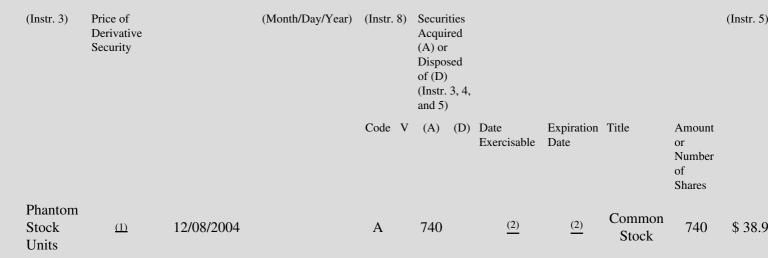
(Month/Day/Year)

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

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5. Number	6. Date Exercisable and	7. Title and Amount of	8. Price
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactio	onof	Expiration Date	Underlying Securities	Derivati
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	Derivative	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)	Security

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
• 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
MATHRANI ARJUN K 711 HIGH STREET DES MOINES, IA 50392	X				

Signatures

Joyce N. Hoffman, by Power of Attorney 12/10/2004

**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) Security converts to common stock on a one-for-one basis.
- (2) The reported phantom stock units were acquired pursuant to the Principal Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors and will be settled on the reporting person's retirement.

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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