

FAINTUCH AMIR  
Form 4  
January 19, 2011

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
FAINTUCH AMIR

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS INC [ATHR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 1700 TECHNOLOGY DRIVE  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
01/16/2011

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Senior Vice President & GM

SAN JOSE,, CA 95110  
(City) (State) (Zip)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 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 Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				(A) or (D)	Amount or Price			
				Code	V	Amount	Price	
Common Stock	01/16/2011		A	(1)	15,000	A	\$ 0 39,480	D
Common Stock	01/16/2011		A	(2)	50,000	A	\$ 0 89,480	D

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)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Beneficially (Instr. 5)
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## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
FAINTUCH AMIR C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. 1700 TECHNOLOGY DRIVE SAN JOSE,, CA 95110			Senior Vice President & GM	

## Signatures

Bruce P. Johnson, 01/19/2011  
 Attorney-in-fact

        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).
- On February 23, 2010, the Reporting Person was granted restricted stock units ("RSUs") that would vest subject to the Issuer's satisfaction of certain performance criteria for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010. The performance criteria for 2010 were met and
- (1) certified by the Compensation Committee of the Issuer's Board of Directors on January 16, 2011, resulting in vesting of the RSUs as follows: The RSUs will vest and be settled in shares of the Issuer's common stock over three (3) years, with the first 1/3 of the RSUs vesting on February 8, 2011 and the remaining RSUs vesting in equal quarterly installments over the following two (2) years.
  - (2) Represents Restricted Stock Units that will vest and be settled in shares of Common Stock in 16 equal quarterly installments commencing on May 8, 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.