

GERSHWIND ERIK
 Form 4
 January 17, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 GERSHWIND ERIK

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 MSC INDUSTRIAL DIRECT CO INC [MSM]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 C/O MSC INDUSTRIAL DIRECT CO., INC., 75 MAXESS RD.

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 01/12/2012

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 President and COO

(Street)
 MELVILLE, NY US 11747

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	
Class A Common Stock, \$0.001 par value	01/12/2012		M	13,500	A	\$ 37.45	39,288	D

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

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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 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. Amount or Number of Shares
Options (right to buy) ⁽¹⁾	\$ 37.45	01/12/2012		M	13,500	⁽²⁾ 10/20/2012	Class A Common Stock, \$0.001 par value	13,500

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
GERSHWIND ERIK C/O MSC INDUSTRIAL DIRECT CO., INC. 75 MAXESS RD. MELVILLE, NY US 11747	X		President and COO	

Signatures

/s/ Erik Gershwind
01/16/2012
 **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) Represents options to purchase the Issuer's Class A Common Stock, \$0.001 par value ("Common Stock").
An option to purchase 13,500 shares of the Issuer's Common Stock was issued to the Reporting Person under the Issuer's 2001 Stock Option Plan. 3,375 shares of Common Stock became exercisable on each of October 21, 2006, October 21, 2007, October 21, 2008 and October 21, 2009.

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.