MAYR KARL Form 4 January 18, 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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Form 5 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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

(Last)

(City)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * MAYR KARL

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Issuer

AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD

[AXS]

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

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

AXIS Re Europe

below)

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

OMB

Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

C/O AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LIMITED, 106 PITTS BAY ROAD

(Street)

(State)

(First)

(Middle)

(Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

A

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

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

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

below)

PEMBROKE, D0 HM 08

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 1. Title of 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Following (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Price

Common Shares

01/13/2005

Amount (D) 30,000

Α

<u>(1)</u>

64,000

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)

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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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of or Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4,	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount Underlying Securitic (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Sha
Employee Stock Option	\$ 28.02	01/13/2005		A	40,000	01/13/2006(2)	01/13/2015	Common Shares	40,0

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

MAYR KARL C/O AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LIMITED 106 PITTS BAY ROAD PEMBROKE, D0 HM 08

AXIS Re Europe

Signatures

Carol S. Rivers, 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).
- (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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