

STROPKI JOHN M  
 Form 4  
 March 09, 2012

# 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  
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 STROPKI JOHN M

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS INC [LECO]

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 03/07/2012

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 Chairman, President and CEO

CLEVELAND, OH 44117-1199  
 (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)	(A) or (D)	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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Shares	03/07/2012		M	10,000	A	\$ 11.73 177,888	D	
Common Shares	03/08/2012		M	20,000	A	\$ 11.73 197,888	D	
Common Shares	03/07/2012		S	7,550	D	\$ 45.7 190,338	D	
Common Shares	03/08/2012		S	17,366	D	172,972	D	
Common Shares						5,000	I	by Spouse

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Common Shares	221,997 <sup>(2)</sup>	I	by Trust
Common Shares	12,402.743 <sup>(3)</sup>	I	401(k) Plan
Common Shares	80,455.364	I	SPP

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)		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 11.73	03/07/2012		M	10,000	11/20/2005	11/20/2012	Common Shares	10,000
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 11.73	03/08/2012		M	20,000	11/20/2005	11/20/2012	Common Shares	20,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
STROPKI JOHN M 22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE CLEVELAND, OH 44117-1199	X		Chairman, President and CEO	

## Signatures

/s/ Jennifer I. Ansberry, Jennifer I. Ansberry as Attorney-in-Fact for John M. Stropki, Jr.

03/09/2012

\_\_\_\_\_  
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) 12,384 at \$46.1000; 66 at \$46.1100; 3,100 at \$46.5000; 10 at \$46.5005; 300 at \$46.5100; 300 at \$46.5200; 400 at \$46.5300; 6 at \$46.5400; 100 at \$46.5700; 700 at \$46.5900.
  - (2) Shares held by Elizabeth A. Stropki Trust.
  - (3) Held by trustee pursuant to The Lincoln Electric Company 401(k) plan. Holdings are reported on a unitized basis, which amount represents approximately 10,429.950 shares.

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.