

LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS INC
 Form 4
 February 19, 2016

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2015
 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 *
 BLANKENSHIP GEORGE D

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)
 02/17/2016

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 Ex. VP; Pres., Americas Welding

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) | 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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Shares | 02/17/2016 | | A | 3,950 A | \$ 0 (1) 48,714 (2) | D | |
| Common Shares | | | | | 6,875.986 (3) | I | by 401(k) |

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

Edgar Filing: LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS INC - Form 4

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) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable Expiration Date | Title Amount or Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 58.14 | 02/17/2016 | | A | 17,665 | <u>(4)</u> 02/17/2026 | Common Shares 17,665 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| BLANKENSHIP GEORGE D 22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE CLEVELAND, OH 44117-1199 | | | Ex.VP; Pres., Americas Welding | |

Signatures

/s/ Jennifer I. Ansberry, Jennifer I. Ansberry as Attorney-in-Fact for George D. Blankenship 02/19/2016

__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) Pursuant to restricted stock unit awards.
- (2) 2140 shares are held as Joint Tenants - George D. Blankenship and Karen Blankenship (spouse).
- (3) Held by trustee pursuant to The Lincoln Electric Company 401(k) plan. Holdings are reported on a unitized basis, which amount represents 5,737.626 shares.
- (4) The options become exercisable in three equal annual installments on February 17, 2017, February 17, 2018 and February 17, 2019.

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.