

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

Check this box if no longer
subject to Section 16. Form 4 or
Form 5 obligations may continue.
See Instruction 1(b).

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

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* Robert M. Hart Alleghany Corporation 7 Times Square Tower, 17th Floor New York NY 10036 | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Alleghany Corporation [Y] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) SVP, General Counsel and Sec. |
| | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Required to be Reported (Month/Day/Year) 02/26/2009 | |
| | 4. If amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> 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 (mm/dd/yy) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (mm/dd/yy) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, & 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3, & 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 | | | |
| Common Stock | 02/26/2009 | | A (1) | | 2,640 | A | \$262.735 | 14,755 | D | |
| Common Stock | 02/26/2009 | | D (1) | | 933 | D | \$262.735 | 13,822 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 4,000 | I | By Trust |

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

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

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.

Form 4 (cont.)
 Name and Address of Reporting Person
 Robert M. Hart
 Alleghany Corporation
 7 Times Square Tower, 17th Floor
 New York NY 10036

Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 Alleghany Corporation [Y]

Period Of Report
 02/26/2009

**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 (mm/dd/yy) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (mm/dd/yy) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 5. No. of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, & 5) | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (mm/dd/yy) | | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 & 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. No. of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3, & 4) | 10. Ownership Form of Derivative Securities: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|-----|--|-----------------|---|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

(1) - Settlement of 2,640 performance shares for Common Stock and \$244,887.64 in cash representing the minimum statutory withholding requirements in respect of the award.

By: Robert M. Hart
 **Signature of Reporting Person

3/2/2009
 Date

**Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations.

See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, See Instruction 6 for procedure.

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