

AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD
Form 4
August 16, 2012

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 *
BUTT MICHAEL A

(Last) (First) (Middle)

AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LIMITED, 92 PITTS BAY ROAD

(Street)

PEMBROKE, D0 HM 08

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LTD [AXS]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
08/14/2012

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

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)			
				(A) or (D)	Price					
				Code	V	Amount				
Common Shares	08/14/2012		M		80,000	A	\$ 12.65	1,187,130	D	
Common Shares	08/14/2012		F		29,599	D	\$ 34.19	1,157,531	D	
Common Shares	08/14/2012		M		40,000	A	\$ 14.5	1,197,531	D	
Common Shares	08/14/2012		F		16,964	D	\$ 34.19	1,180,567	D	

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)

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	\$ 12.65	08/14/2012		M	80,000	<u>(1)</u>	09/29/2012	Common Shares	80,000
Employee Stock Option	\$ 14.5	08/14/2012		M	40,000	<u>(2)</u>	12/11/2012	Common Shares	40,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BUTT MICHAEL A
AXIS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LIMITED
92 PITTS BAY ROAD
PEMBROKE, D0 HM 08

X

Signatures

Richard T. Gieryn, Jr.,
Attorney-in-Fact

08/16/2012

**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) The Employee Stock Option vested in three equal installments commencing September 30, 2002.

(2) The Employee Stock Option vested in three equal installments commencing December 12, 2002.

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.