

ZHENG JASON  
Form 3  
December 02, 2010

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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)

<p>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *</p> <p>Â ZHENG JASON</p> <p>(Last) (First) (Middle)</p> <p>C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC.,Â 1700 TECHNOLOGY DRIVE</p> <p>(Street)</p> <p>SAN JOSE,,Â CAÂ 95110</p> <p>(City) (State) (Zip)</p>	<p>2. Date of Event Requiring Statement</p> <p>(Month/Day/Year)</p> <p>11/29/2010</p>	<p>3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol</p> <p>ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS INC [ATHR]</p>	<p>4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</p> <p>(Check all applicable)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>(give title below) (specify below)</p> <p>Senior Vice President &amp; GM</p>	<p>5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)</p>	<p>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person</p>
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**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	126,411 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	Â
Common Stock	8,426 <sup>(2)</sup>	I	By Daughter

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)		
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
Employee Stock Options (right to buy)	Â (3)	02/15/2019	Common Stock	150,000	\$ 13.87	D	Â
Employee Stock Options (right to buy)	Â (4)	02/10/2017	Common Stock	50,000	\$ 34.02	D	Â

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ZHENG JASON C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. 1700 TECHNOLOGY DRIVE SAN JOSE,, CA 95110	Â	Â	Â Senior Vice President & GM	Â

## Signatures

Bruce P. Johnson,  
Attorney-in-fact

12/02/2010

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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) Includes 5,625 Restricted Stock Units that will vest and be settled in shares of Common Stock in nine equal quarterly installments commencing on February 16, 2011.
- (2) The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities, and this report shall not be deemed an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of such securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.
- (3) 25% of the options became exercisable on 2/16/2010, and the remaining options become exercisable in 36 equal monthly installments commencing on 3/16/2010.
- (4) The options become exercisable in 48 equal monthly installments commencing on March 11, 2010.

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.