

Blankenship George  
Form 4  
February 15, 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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2005  
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burden hours per  
response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
Blankenship George

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3500 DEER CREEK ROAD

(Street)

PALO ALTO, CA 94304

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
TESLA MOTORS INC [TSLA]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
02/13/2012

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

VP- WW Sales & Ownership Exp

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ 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<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities<br>Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                       |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V                                                                          | Amount                                                                                                             | (D)                                                                  | Price                                                             |

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  
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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<br>Derivative<br>Security | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any | 4. Transaction<br>Code | 5. Number of<br>Derivative<br>Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount<br>Underlying Security<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|

## Edgar Filing: Blankenship George - Form 4

| (Instr. 3)                                      | Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired (A)<br>or Disposed of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) | Code | V | (A)    | (D) | Date<br>Exercisable | Expiration<br>Date | Title           | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of Shares |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---|--------|-----|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Incentive<br>Stock Option<br>(right to buy)     | \$ 31.49                           | 02/13/2012       |            |                                                                  | A    |   | 4,371  |     | <u>(1)</u>          | 02/13/2022         | Common<br>Stock | 4,371                               |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option<br>(right to buy) | \$ 31.49                           | 02/13/2012       |            |                                                                  | A    |   | 35,629 |     | <u>(1)</u>          | 02/13/2022         | Common<br>Stock | 35,629                              |

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director    10% Owner    Officer    Other

Blankenship George  
3500 DEER CREEK ROAD  
PALO ALTO, CA 94304

VP- WW Sales & Ownership Exp

## Signatures

By: /s/ Deepak Ahuja as Power of Attorney For: George  
Blankenship

02/15/2012

\_\_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) 1/48th of the shares subject to the option will vest on each monthly anniversary of the grant date, so that all such shares will be vested as of the fourth anniversary of the grant date.

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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