LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS INC
Form 4
October 26, 2016

# FORM 4

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

**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 |
| Expires: | January 31, 2005 |
| 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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
BLANKENSHIP GEORGE D

(Last) (First) (Middle)

22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE

(Street)

CLEVELAND, OH 44117-1199

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS INC [LECO]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
10/25/2016

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)
Ex.VP; Pres., Americas Welding

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 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) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | | | |
| Common Shares | 10/25/2016 | | M | | 2,400 | A | $ 21.19 | 51,114 | D | |
| Common Shares | 10/25/2016 | | M | | 17,700 | A | $ 26.355 | 68,814 | D | |
| Common Shares | 10/25/2016 | | M | | 13,740 | A | $ 31.315 | 82,554 | D | |
| Common Shares | 10/25/2016 | | M | | 10,124 | A | $ 35.55 | 92,678 | D | |
| Common Shares | 10/25/2016 | | S | | 43,964 | D | $ 64.7278 (1) | 48,714 | D | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Common Shares | 10/26/2016 | | M | 3,736 | A | $ 35.55 | 52,450 | D | |
| Common Shares | 10/26/2016 | | S | 3,736 | D | $ 64.75 | 48,714 (2) | D | |
| Common Shares | | | | | | | 5,806.386 | 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)

**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) | $ 21.19 | 10/25/2016 | | M | | | 2,400 | (3) | 07/31/2019 | Common Shares | 2,400 |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | $ 26.355 | 10/25/2016 | | M | | | 17,700 | (4) | 12/01/2019 | Common Shares | 17,700 |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | $ 31.315 | 10/25/2016 | | M | | | 13,740 | (5) | 12/01/2020 | Common Shares | 13,740 |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | $ 35.55 | 10/25/2016 | | M | | | 10,124 | (6) | 11/02/2021 | Common Shares | 10,124 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | $ 35.55 | 10/26/2016 | | M | 3,736 | (6) | 11/02/2021 | Common Shares | 3,736 |

# Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| BLANKENSHIP GEORGE D<br>22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE<br>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 | 10/26/2016 |
| **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)** This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from $64.47 to $65.01. The price reported reflects the weighted average sale price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request to the SEC staff, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transaction was effected.

**(2)** 2140 shares are held as Joint Tenants - George D. Blankenship and Karen Blankenship (spouse).

**(3)** The options became exercisable in three equal annual installments on July 31, 2010, July 31, 2011 and July 31, 2012.

**(4)** The options became exercisable in three annual installments on December 1, 2010, December 1, 2011,and December 1, 2012.

**(5)** The options became exercisable in three annual installments on December 1, 2011, December 1, 2012 and December 1, 2013.

**(6)** The options became exercisable in three annual installments on November 2, 2012, November 2, 2013 and November 2, 2014.

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.