

22nd Century Group, Inc.
Form 4
March 08, 2016

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

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 *
RUSHTON PAUL

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O 22ND CENTURY GROUP, INC., 9530 MAIN STREET

(Street)

CLARENCE, NY 14031

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
22nd Century Group, Inc. [XXII]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
03/04/2016

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)

VP of Plant Biotechnology

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 Reported (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | |
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | (D) Price |

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

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

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| (Instr. 3) | Price of Derivative Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount Num Shares |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------|--|------|---|-----|-----|------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 0.95 | 03/04/2016 | A | 79,787 | | | | | (1) | 03/04/2026 | Common Stock | 79, |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option | \$ 0.8417 | | | | | | | | (2) | 10/07/2025 | Common Stock | 100 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| RUSHTON PAUL C/O 22ND CENTURY GROUP, INC. 9530 MAIN STREET CLARENCE, NY 14031 | | | VP of Plant Biotechnology | |

Signatures

John J. Wolfel, Attorney-in-Fact for Paul Rushton
 Signature: _____ Date: 03/08/2016

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) Stock option grant which vests one-third on each of March 4, 2017, March 4, 2018 and March 4, 2019.
- (2) Options vest on November 1, 2016 provided that Dr. Rushton remains employed by the Company through that time.

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.