

HEMSLEY STEPHEN J
 Form 4
 February 25, 2009

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 *
HEMSLEY STEPHEN J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP INC [UNH]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/23/2009

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
President & Chief Exec Officer

C/O UNITEDHEALTH GROUP INCORPORATED, 9900 BREN ROAD EAST

(Street)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

MINNETONKA, MN 55343

(City) (State) (Zip)

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	02/23/2009		A	57,692 A	\$ 0 2,406,031 ⁽²⁾	D	
Common Stock					281	I	by 401(k)

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

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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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
Stock Appreciation Rights	\$ 29.74	02/23/2009		A	169,683	02/03/2010 ⁽³⁾ 02/23/2019	Common Stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
HEMSLEY STEPHEN J C/O UNITEDHEALTH GROUP INCORPORATED 9900 BREN ROAD EAST MINNETONKA, MN 55343	X		President & Chief Exec Officer	

Signatures

By: Dannette L. Smith, Attorney-in-Fact For: Stephen J. Hemsley 02/24/2009

____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 restricted stock units will vest at a rate of 25% annually on February 3 from the years 2010 through 2013.
Amount does not include performance-based restricted stock units granted to the executive officer on February 23, 2009, as performance awards not tied to stock price are not derivative securities for purposes of Section 16 under guidance from the staff of the SEC. The number of performance-based restricted stock units that the executive officer will receive will be determined at the end of the 3-year performance period and will be dependent upon the achievement of average EPS growth percentages and average return-on-equity performance metrics approved by the Compensation and Human Resources Committee. The target number of performance-based restricted stock units is 115,385. Amount does include shares acquired under UnitedHealth Group's Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
- (3) The stock appreciation rights vest at a rate of 25% annually on February 3 from the years 2010 through 2013.

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.