

GABELLI EQUITY TRUST INC  
 Form 4  
 July 10, 2009

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 GABELLI MARIO J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 GABELLI EQUITY TRUST INC  
 [GAB]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 07/09/2009

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

C/O GAMCO INVESTORS,  
 INC, ONE CORPORATE CENTER

(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

RYE, NY 10580

(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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Common Stock                    | 07/09/2009                           |  | D                              | 1,452   | \$ 4.06   | I  | By: GGCP, Inc. <sup>(1)</sup>                         |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 947,963.2733  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 37,358  | I  | By: MJG IV Limited Partnership <sup>(2)</sup>         |

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.

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(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) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Reporting Transaction (Instr. 6) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
|  |  |                                      |  |                                |   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares  |
|  |  |                                      |  |                                |   | Code   | V   | (A)  | (D)   |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |         |                               |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------------------------------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other                         |
| GABELLI MARIO J<br>C/O GAMCO INVESTORS, INC<br>ONE CORPORATE CENTER<br>RYE, NY 10580 |               | X         |         |                               |
| GGCP, INC.<br>140 GREENWICH AVENUE<br>GREENWICH, CT 06830                            |               |           |         | Majority shareholder of GAMCO |
| MJG IV LIMITED PARTNERSHIP   |               |           |         | Limited Partnership           |

## Signatures

Douglas R. Jamieson as Attorney-in-Fact for Mario J. Gabelli, GGCP, Inc., and MJG IV Limited Partnership.

07/10/2009

\_\_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 shares reported reflect the total shares owned by GGCP. Mr. Gabelli has less than a 100% interest in GGCP and disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares owned by this entity which are in excess of his indirect pecuniary interests.

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- The shares reported reflect the total shares owned by MJG IV Limited Partnership, a limited partnership for which Mr. Gabelli serves as a
- (2) general partner. Mr. Gabelli has less than a 100% interest in the entity and disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares owned by this entity which are in excess of his indirect pecuniary interest.

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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