

TOWNSEND MARK  
Form 4  
September 24, 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 \*  
TOWNSEND MARK

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
SKILLSOFT PUBLIC LIMITED CO  
[SKIL]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
300 INNOVATIVE WAY, SUITE 301  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
09/22/2009

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
EVP, Technology

NASHUA, NH 03062

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

**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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
|   |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D) Price  |   |  |  |
| American Depository Shares <sup>(1)</sup> | 09/22/2009                           |  | S <sup>(2)</sup>               | 125,000 D   | \$ 9.3 235,130  | D  |  |
| American Depository Shares <sup>(1)</sup> |                                      |  |                                |   | 57,050  | I  | See Footnote <sup>(3)</sup>                |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

**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. Nu                      |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                       | Relationships |           |                 |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer         | Other |
| TOWNSEND MARK<br>300 INNOVATIVE WAY<br>SUITE 301<br>NASHUA, NH 03062 |               |           | EVP, Technology |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Greg Porto (for Mark Townsend) 09/24/2009

\_\_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) American Depositary Shares evidenced by American Depositary Receipts, each of which represents one Ordinary Share of SkillSoft Public Limited Company, nominal value 0.11 (Euro) per Ordinary Share.
- (2) Sale made pursuant to Mr. Townsend's Rule 10b5-1 Sales Plan adopted in September 2009.
- (3) Held by the MCM Irrevocable Trust, of which the Reporting Person's spouse is trustee. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership in these securities to the extent to which such person does not have an actual pecuniary interest in these securities.

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.