

COSTCO WHOLESALE CORP /NEW  
 Form 4  
 March 14, 2005

**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 \*  
**BROTMAN JEFFREY H**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**COSTCO WHOLESALE CORP /NEW [cost]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 999 LAKE DRIVE  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 03/11/2005

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 Chairman of the Board

ISSAQUAH, WA 98027  
 (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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount  | (A) or (D)   | Price   |
| Common Stock                    | 03/11/2005                           |  | M                              |   | 100,000   | A  | \$ 6.6563   |
| Common Stock                    | 03/11/2005                           |  | S                              |   | 100,000   | D  | \$ 45.06  |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | 20  |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  | 2,061,703.04<br>(1)                                   |
|                                 |                                      |  |                                |   |   | I  | 1984 Brotman Family Trust                             |

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

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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) |              |                         |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------|-------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title        | Amount Number of Shares |
| Stock Option                               | \$ 6.6563  | 03/11/2005                           |  | M                              | 100,000   | 05/26/1997   | 05/26/2005  | Common Stock | 100,000                 |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                            | Relationships |           |                       |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer               | Other |
| BROTMAN JEFFREY H<br>999 LAKE DRIVE<br>ISSAQUAH, WA 98027 | X             |           | Chairman of the Board |       |

## Signatures

Deanna Nakashima,  
attorney-in-fact  
03/14/2005  
Date

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

## 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) Mr. Brotman is not a trustee of this trust nor does he have investment control over the trust's assets. Mr. Brotman is one of a number of beneficiaries of the trust.

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.