

STROPKI JOHN M  
Form 4  
November 29, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

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

## OMB APPROVAL

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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
STROPKI JOHN M

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS  
INC [LECO]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
11/27/2012

☐ Director ☐ 10% Owner  
☒ Officer (give title below) ☐ Other (specify below)  
Chairman, President and CEO

CLEVELAND, OH 44117-1199

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A)<br>or Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                       |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V                                                                       | Amount                                                                                                             | (A)<br>or<br>(D)                                                        | Price                                                             |
| Common<br>Shares                      | 11/27/2012                              |                                                             | M                                    |                                                                         | 20,000                                                                                                             | A                                                                       | \$ 11.95 187,888                                                  |
| Common<br>Shares                      | 11/27/2012                              |                                                             | S                                    |                                                                         | 8,291                                                                                                              | D                                                                       | \$ 46.5 179,597                                                   |
| Common<br>Shares                      | 11/27/2012                              |                                                             | S                                    |                                                                         | 2,000                                                                                                              | D                                                                       | \$ 46.54 177,597                                                  |
| Common<br>Shares                      | 11/27/2012                              |                                                             | S                                    |                                                                         | 2,000                                                                                                              | D                                                                       | \$ 46.55 175,597                                                  |
| Common<br>Shares                      | 11/27/2012                              |                                                             | S                                    |                                                                         | 1,109                                                                                                              | D                                                                       | \$ 46.58 174,488                                                  |

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|               |            |   |       |   |            |                           |   |             |
|---------------|------------|---|-------|---|------------|---------------------------|---|-------------|
| Common Shares | 11/27/2012 | S | 2,000 | D | \$ 46.59   | 172,488                   | D |             |
| Common Shares | 11/27/2012 | S | 600   | D | \$ 46.6    | 171,888                   | D |             |
| Common Shares | 11/28/2012 | S | 1,000 | D | \$ 46.3039 | 170,888                   | D |             |
| Common Shares | 11/28/2012 | S | 1,000 | D | \$ 46.32   | 169,888                   | D |             |
| Common Shares | 11/28/2012 | S | 2,000 | D | \$ 46.3013 | 167,888                   | D |             |
| Common Shares | 11/27/2012 | F | 6,728 | D | \$ 46.19   | 161,722 <sup>(1)</sup>    | D |             |
| Common Shares |            |   |       |   |            | 5,000                     | I | by Spouse   |
| Common Shares |            |   |       |   |            | 224,682 <sup>(2)</sup>    | I | by Trust    |
| Common Shares |            |   |       |   |            | 12,509.301 <sup>(3)</sup> | I | 401(k) Plan |
| Common Shares |            |   |       |   |            | 81,839.629                | I | SPP         |

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 or Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)       | \$ 11.95                                               | 11/27/2012                           |                                                    | M                              |                                                                                         | 20,000                                                   |     | 10/08/2006                                                    | 10/08/2013      | Common Shares | 20,000                     |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                       | Relationships |           |                                   |       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------|
|                                                                      | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                           | Other |
| STROPKI JOHN M<br>22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE<br>CLEVELAND, OH 44117-1199 | X             |           | Chairman,<br>President and<br>CEO |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Jennifer I. Ansberry, Jennifer I. Ansberry as Attorney-in-Fact for John M. Stropki, Jr.

11/29/2012

\_\_\_\_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) Total also includes 562 additional shares attributable to dividends earned on shares of restricted stock that were granted on November 28, 2007 and vested on November 28, 2012.
- (2) Shares held by Elizabeth A. Stropki Trust.
- (3) Held by trustee pursuant to The Lincoln Electric Company 401(k) plan. Holdings are reported on a unitized basis, which amount represents approximately 10,529.587 shares.

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.