## FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington,	D.C.	20549

Check this box if no longer subject to	STATEMENT
Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5	
obligations may continue. See	
Instruction 1(b).	Filed purs

## OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  GATES WILLIAM H III						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol MICROSOFT CORP [ MSFT ]											olicable)	Person(s) to Issuer  10% Owner	
(Last) (First) (Middle) ONE MICROSOFT WAY						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 10/22/2012										Officer (give title below)		Other below	(specify )
(Street) REDMO			08052 Zip)	2	4. 1	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									6. Indiv Line) X	Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting  Person			
		Tabl	e I -	Non-Deriv	/ative	e Sec	uritie	s Ac	quir	ed, [	Disp	osed o	f, or E	Benefic	ially	Owne	ed		
Date			2. Transactio Date (Month/Day/Y	Execu (ear) if any		emed tion Date, n/Day/Year)		3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)					5) Sec Ber Ow		ount of ties cially d Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership		
								С	ode	v	Amou	unt	(A) or (D)	Price		Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)			(Instr. 4)
Common Stock 1				10/22/20	12	.2			S <sup>(1)</sup>		4,50	00,000	D \$28.0		169 <sup>(2)</sup> 456,484,2		484,209 <sup>(3)</sup>	D	
		Та	ble	II - Derivat (e.g., p												vned			
Security or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any			ution Date,		Transaction Code (Instr. B) Se Ad (A Di of (Ir Code (Instr. Se Ad (Ir Code		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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4)		Deri Seci (Inst	vative de urity Se r. 5) Be Co Fe R. Tr	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction( (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exe	e rcisabl		xpiration ate	Title	Amount or Number of Shares					

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. The sales reported in this filing were made pursuant to the 10b5-1 sales plan of the reporting person.
- 2. This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$27.83 to \$28.81. The price set forth above reflects the weighted-average price per share. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request to the SEC staff, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer full information regarding the number of shares and prices at which the transactions were effected.
- 3. In addition, there are 424,816 shares owned by the spouse of the reporting person. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities, and this report shall not be deemed an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of the securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purposes.

/s/ Alan Heuberger, Attorneyin-fact for William H. Gates III

10/24/2012

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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 Number.