

ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS INC
 Form 4
 May 17, 2006

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 *
BARRATT CRAIG H

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 5480 GREAT AMERICA PARKWAY

(Street)

SANTA CLARA,, CA 95054

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS INC [ATHR]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 05/17/2006

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	05/17/2006		M		40,000	A	\$ 1.72
Common Stock					2,250	I	See Footnote (1)
Common Stock					2,250	I	See Footnote (1)

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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 1.72	05/17/2006		M	20,389	04/10/2002 ⁽²⁾ 04/10/2012	Common Stock	20,389
Employee Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 1.72	05/17/2006		M	19,611	04/09/2003 ⁽³⁾ 04/09/2013	Common Stock	19,611

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BARRATT CRAIG H C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. 5480 GREAT AMERICA PARKWAY SANTA CLARA,, CA 95054	X		President and CEO	

Signatures

Bruce P. Johnson,
Attorney-in-fact

05/17/2006

__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)

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These shares are held in trust for the benefit of the reporting person's son. The reporting person's brother-in-law is the trustee of the trust. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities, and the filing of this report is not an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of these securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

- (2) All of the options became exercisable on 4/10/2002. The shares underlying the options are subject to the issuer's right of repurchase that lapsed as to 25% of the shares on 4/1/2003, and lapses as to the remaining shares in 36 equal monthly installments beginning on 5/1/2003.

- (3) All of the options became exercisable on 4/9/2003. The shares underlying the options are subject to the issuer's right of repurchase that lapsed as to 25% of the shares on 2/23/2004, and lapses as to the remaining shares in 36 equal monthly installments beginning on 3/23/2004.

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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