#### **AMBROSEO JOHN**

Form 4

November 19, 2008

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

**OMB** 

**OMB APPROVAL** 

Number:

3235-0287

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0.5

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Check this box

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Re AMBROSEO JOHN	porting Person *	2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol COHERENT INC [COHR]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer		
(Last) (First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)		
P.O. BOX 54980		(Month/Day/Year) 10/31/2008	X Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify below) Pres. and CEO		
(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person		
SANTA CLARA, CA	95056-0980		Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	le I - Non-	Derivative	Secui	rities Acqu	ired, Disposed of	, or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	4. Secur on(A) or D (Instr. 3,	4 and (A) or	d of (D)	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)
Common Stock	10/31/2008		J <u>(1)</u> \	879	A	\$ 21.505	62,384	D	

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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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 or 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
Restricted Stock Unit	\$ 0	11/17/2008		A	28,550	(2)	11/17/2011	Common Stock	28,550
Non Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 23.16	11/17/2008		A	75,600	(2)	11/17/2014	Common Stock	75,600

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
<b></b>	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
AMBROSEO JOHN P.O. BOX 54980 SANTA CLARA, CA 95056-0980	X		Pres. and CEO				

# **Signatures**

Bret Dimarco, General Counsel & Power of Attorney 11/19/2008

\*\*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) Acquisition of shares from Employee Stock Purchas Plan exempt under Rule 16b-3(c).
- (2) The grant vests in three equal annual installments beginning November 17, 2009.

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.

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