

BRISTOL WEST HOLDINGS INC
 Form 4
 May 16, 2006

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 *
 MEEHAN JAMES N

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 BRISTOL WEST HOLDINGS INC
 [BRW]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 425 SOUTH BELMONT
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 05/15/2006

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

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL 60005
 (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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | |
| Common Stock | 05/15/2006 | | M | 2,358 A | 26,671 | D | |

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

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 control number.

SEC 1474
 (9-02)

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 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 Shares |
| Phantom Stock Units | (1) | 05/15/2006 | | M | 2,357.89 | 05/15/2006 | 05/15/2006 | Common Stock | 2,357. |
| Phantom Stock Units | (1) | | | | | (2) | (2) | Common Stock | 368.8 (1) |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| MEEHAN JAMES N 425 SOUTH BELMONT ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL 60005 | | | X | |

Signatures

/s/ Alexis S. Oster, by Power of Attorney for Reporting Person
 Date: 05/16/2006

__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) Phantom Stock Units convert to Common Stock on a one-for-one basis. The reporting person settled his shares of phantom stock for whole shares of Common Stock.
 These Phantom Stock Units become payable at the election of the reporting person (on March 31, 2008) or upon the reporting person's earlier termination of service as a director, subject to certain provisions and conditions set forth in the Bristol West Holdings, Inc. Non-Employee Directors' Deferred Compensation and Stock Award Plan.

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.