

Tyska Paul A  
 Form 3  
 December 29, 2008

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * |         | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement | 3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol |  |
| Â Tyska Paul A                            |         | (Month/Day/Year)                     | CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEMS INC [CSII]                  |  |
| (Last)                                    | (First) | (Middle)                             | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer   | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)                   |
| 651 CAMPUS DRIVE                          |         | 12/29/2008                           |  |  |
| (Street)                                  |         |                                      | (Check all applicable)                             |  |
| ST. PAUL,Â MNÂ 55112                      |         |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Director                  | <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner                                     |
| (City)                                    | (State) | (Zip)                                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer        | <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |
|   |         |                                      | (give title below)                                 | (specify below)  |
|   |         |                                      | VP of Business Dev.                                | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)             |
|   |         |                                      |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person |
|   |         |                                      |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person  |

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Common Stock                    | 7,982   | D  | Â   |
| Common Stock                    | 2,000   | I  | Held as custodian for minor children.                 |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

**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.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
|--|--|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|

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|                             | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares | Derivative Security | Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) |   |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| Stock Option (right to buy) | Â (1)            | 10/02/2011      | Common Stock | 140,000                    | \$ 5.71             | D   | Â |
| Stock Option (right to buy) | Â (2)            | 08/06/2017      | Common Stock | 35,000                     | \$ 5.11             | D   | Â |
| Stock Option (right to buy) | Â (3)            | 12/11/2017      | Common Stock | 50,000                     | \$ 7.86             | D   | Â |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                         | Relationships |           |                       |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer               | Other |
| Tyska Paul A<br>651 CAMPUS DRIVE<br>ST. PAUL, MN 55112 | Â             | Â         | Â VP of Business Dev. | Â     |

## Signatures

/s/ Carlye S. Landin as Attorney-in-Fact for Paul A. Tyska pursuant to Power of Attorney filed herewith.

12/29/2008

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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) Exercisable: 46,666 on 10/3/07 and 46,667 on 10/03/08 and 10/03/09.

(2) Exercisable: 11,667 on 8/7/08 and 8/7/09; 11,666 on 8/7/10.

(3) Exercisable: 25,000 on the first anniversary of the closing of the Company's merger with Replidyne, Inc. and 25,000 on the second anniversary of the merger.

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.