#### Edgar Filing: MIDDLEBY CORP - Form 4

MIDDLEB Form 4 February 28	3, 2012										
OMB APPROVAL OMB APPROVAL										PROVAL	
		SIAILS			D.C. 205				OMB Number:	3235-0287	
Check t if no lor	nger	x STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNE SECURITIES							Expires:	January 31, 2005	
subject Section Form 4	to STATEN 16. or								Estimated a burden hour response	verage	
Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b). 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)										
BASSOUL SELIM A Symbo			Symbol	issuer realize and realize or reading				5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
				of Earliest Transaction				(Check all applicable)			
(Mont			(Month/Da	Ionth/Day/Year)				_X_ Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)			
	CORPORATION, 1400     below)     below)       TOASTMASTER DRIVE     CEO, Chairman, President										
				onth/Day/Year)				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person			
ELGIN, IL 60120 — Form filed by More than One Reporting Person											
(City) (State) (Zip) <b>Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned</b>											
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)		tion Date 2A. Deemed ay/Year) Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)			4. Securitie nor Disposed (Instr. 3, 4 a	d of (È	))	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			(	Code V	Amount	(D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)			
Common Stock	02/23/2012		]	M <u>(2)</u>	184,408	А	\$ 2.95	766,765	D		
Common Stock	02/23/2012			F <u>(3)</u>	56,278	D	\$ 99.53	710,487	D		
Common Stock	02/23/2012			S <u>(1)</u>	6,468	D	\$ 100	704,019	D		
Common Stock	02/24/2012			S <u>(1)</u>	20,675	D	\$ 100	683,344	D		

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

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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 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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	onDeri Secu Acqu Disp	umber of vative rities uired (A) or osed of (D) r. 3, 4, and	6. Date Exercisab Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year		7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and 4	Securitie
	Security			Code V	(Hist 5) (A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou Numb Shares
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 2.95	02/23/2012		M <u>(2)</u>		184,408	02/26/2007 <u>(2)</u>	02/26/2012	Common Stock	184,

### **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
BASSOUL SELIM A C/O THE MIDDLEBY CORPORATION 1400 TOASTMASTER DRIVE ELGIN, IL 60120	Х		CEO, Chairman, President				
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### Signatures

Person

Martin M.	02/28/2012			
Lindsay POA	02/20/2012			
**Signature of Reporting	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) Shares sold pursuant to existing 10b5-1 plan
- (2) Exercise of stock options granted on February 26, 2002 at a split adjusted exercise price of \$2.95. The option grant vested in 20% increments over a five year period
- (3) Transaction related to the surrender of shares to fund reporting person's tax liability related to stock option exercise

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.