

MARKEL STEVEN A

Form 4

November 15, 2010

**FORM 4****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

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

## OMB APPROVAL

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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
MARKEL STEVEN A

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O MARKEL  
CORPORATION, 4521  
HIGHWOODS PKWY

(Street)

GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
MARKEL CORP [MKL]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
11/11/2010

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) Vice Chairman

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<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Common<br>Stock                       | 10/07/2010                              |                                                             | G                                    | V 15,000 D \$ 0                                                         | 194,715                                                                                                            | D                                                                       |                                                                   |
| Common<br>Stock                       | 11/11/2010                              |                                                             | S                                    | 4,000 D \$ 364.8088<br>(1)                                              | 170,715 (2)                                                                                                        | D                                                                       |                                                                   |
| Common<br>Stock                       |                                         |                                                             |                                      |                                                                         | 1,935.975                                                                                                          | I                                                                       | 401(K)<br>Plan (3)                                                |
| Common<br>Stock                       |                                         |                                                             |                                      |                                                                         | 49,578 (2)                                                                                                         | I                                                                       | By Trust<br>(4)                                                   |
|                                       |                                         |                                                             |                                      |                                                                         | 4,375                                                                                                              | I                                                                       |                                                                   |

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|                 |        |   |  |  |  |  |                     |
|-----------------|--------|---|--|--|--|--|---------------------|
| Common<br>Stock |        |   |  |  |  |  | By Trust<br>(5)     |
| Common<br>Stock | 15,000 | I |  |  |  |  | By<br>Spouse<br>(6) |

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)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number<br>of Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3,<br>4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Underlying<br>Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Nu<br>Deriv<br>Secur<br>Bene<br>Own<br>Follo<br>Repor<br>Trans<br>(Instr |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                     |                                                                    |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V (A) (D)                                                                                                       | Date<br>Exercisable                                            | Expiration<br>Date                                                        | Title                                               | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares                                      |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                                           | Relationships                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                                                                          | Director 10% Owner Officer Other |
| MARKEL STEVEN A<br>C/O MARKEL CORPORATION<br>4521 HIGHWOODS PKWY<br>GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060 | X Vice Chairman                  |

## Signatures

|                                                          |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| /s/ Linda S. Rotz, Attorney-in-fact for Steven A. Markel | 11/15/2010 |
| **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).

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- Sales were effected in forty-three separate transactions at prices ranging from \$363.86 to 365.675. Mr. Markel will provide upon request
- (1) by the Securities and Exchange Commission staff, the issuer, or any security holder of the issuer, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.
  - (2) End of period holdings also reflect change in form of beneficial ownership by reason of a contribution by Mr. Markel of 20,000 shares to a GRAT.
- Holdings under the Markel Corporation 401(K) Plan are reported in units. The information reported herein is based on a plan statement
- (3) dated as of September 30, 2010 and utilizes the closing stock price on that date of \$344.59. As of 9/30/2010, a unit under the Plan represented one share of Common Stock.
  - (4) Mr. Markel is a Trustee and partial beneficiary of three Grantor Retained Annuity Trusts. The total reported represents the aggregate of the trusts.
  - (5) Mr. Markel is trustee and retains a partial interest in the trust. The amount reported reflects all the securities held by the trust, but Mr. Markel disclaims beneficial ownership except with respect to his interest in the trust.
  - (6) Beneficial ownership of securities is expressly disclaimed.

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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