

BGC Partners, Inc.
 Form 4
 December 16, 2008

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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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 *
MERKEL STEPHEN M

(Last) (First) (Middle)
**C/O BGC PARTNERS, INC., 499
 PARK AVENUE**
 (Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10022

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
BGC Partners, Inc. [BGCP]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
12/14/2008

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)
 EVP, GC and Secretary

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)
			Code	V	Amount (A) or (D) Price		
Class A Common Stock, par value per \$0.01 per share	12/14/2008		A		5,162 <u>(1)</u>	A	\$ 0 15,485 <u>(2)</u> D

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

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SEC 1474
 (9-02)

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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. 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)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Beneficially (Instr. 5)
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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
MERKEL STEPHEN M C/O BGC PARTNERS, INC. 499 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10022			EVP, GC and Secretary	

Signatures

/s/ Stephen M. Merkel 12/16/2008

__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) Consists of (i) 3,268 restricted stock units which were granted to Mr. Merkel on December 14, 2007 and vested on December 14, 2008 and (ii) 1,894 restricted stock units which were granted to Mr. Merkel on December 15, 2006 and vested on December 15, 2008.
- (2) Consists of (i) 3,268 restricted stock units which vested on December 14, 2008, (ii) 1,894 restricted stock units which vested on December 15, 2008, (iii) 3,268 restricted stock units which will vest on December 14, 2009, and (iv) 3,268 restricted stock units which will vest on December 14, 2010.

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.