

NORTHERN TRUST CORP  
Form 4  
April 21, 2005

**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 \*  
SMITH HAROLD B

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
NORTHERN TRUST CORP  
[NTRS]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
04/19/2005

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

50 S. LA SALLE ST.

(Street)

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

CHICAGO, IL 60675

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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 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 (D) Price |   |  |                                   |          |
| Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup>     | 04/19/2005                           |  | A                              |   | 536.75             | A \$ 0  | 536.75   | D                                 |          |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   |                    |   | 5,304 <sup>(2)</sup> <sup>(3)</sup>                      | I                                 | By Trust |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   |                    |   | 1,440 <sup>(4)</sup>                                     | I                                 | By Trust |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   |                    |   | 727,928 <sup>(4)</sup>                                   | I                                 | By Trust |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   |                    |   | 1,454,640 <sup>(5)</sup>                                 | I                                 | Trust    |

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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.**

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(9-02)

**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 Beneficially Owned (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                            | Relationships |           |         |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| SMITH HAROLD B<br>50 S. LA SALLE ST.<br>CHICAGO, IL 60675 |               | X         |         |       |

## Signatures

Eileen C. Ratzka POA for Harold B. Smith  
Date: 04/21/2005

## 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) Represents stock units payable automatically on a 1-for-1 basis in shares of the Corporation's common stock.
- (2) Holding reflects vesting of 800 stock units into 800 shares of common stock on April 19, 2005.
- (3) Shares held in a revocable trust created by Mr. Smith.
- (4) Shares held in a trust of which Mr. Smith is a co-trustee and has a direct beneficial interest.
- (5) Shares held in three trusts of which Mr. Smith is a co-trustee and has a contingent beneficial interest.

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.