Kroeger Harald Form 3 December 26, 2012

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

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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

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement TESLA MOTORS INC [TSLA] A Kroeger Harald (Month/Day/Year) 12/12/2012 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) **BELA-BARENYI-STRASSE** (Check all applicable) (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X__ Director 10% Owner _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Officer _ Other Person SINDELFINGEN, Â 2MÂ 71063 (give title below) (specify below) Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 2. Amount of Securities 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security Beneficially Owned Ownership (Instr. 4) Ownership (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Ι Common Stock 4,867,929 See footnote (1)Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly.

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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	5. Ownership Form of	Ownership
					Price of	Derivative	
	Date Expiration Exercisable Date		Title	Amount or Number of	Derivative	Security:	
					Security	Direct (D)	
			Nulliber of		or Indirect		

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				Shares		(I) (Instr. 5)	
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	(2)	01/11/2013	Common Stock	29,860	\$ <u>(2)</u>	I	See footnote (3)
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	(4)	03/12/2013	Common Stock	16,666	\$ <u>(4)</u>	I	See footnote (3)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
F	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Kroeger Harald BELA-BARENYI-STRASSE SINDELFINGEN, 2M 71063	ÂX	Â	Â	Â		

Signatures

/s/ Harald
Kroeger

**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).
 - The shares are owned directly by Blackstar InvestCo LLC, which is wholly-owned by Daimler North America Corporation ("DNAC").
- (1) The reporting person is a vice president of an affiliate of DNAC. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein. This report shall not be deemed an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of such securities for Section 16 or any other purpose.
- (2) Options are currently exercisable for up to 29,860 shares at \$6.63 per share.
 - The options are owned directly by DNAC. The reporting person is a vice president of an affiliate of DNAC. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of the options and the shares subject to the options, except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.
- This report shall not be deemed an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of such securities for Section 16 or any other purpose.
- (4) Options are currently exercisable for up to 16,666 shares at \$28.43 per share.

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.

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