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CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP Form 4 February 22, 2005 OMB APPROVAL FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB 3235-0287 Washington, D.C. 20549 Number: Check this box January 31, Expires: if no longer 2005 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to Estimated average **SECURITIES** Section 16. burden hours per Form 4 or response... 0.5 Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction 1(b). (Print or Type Responses) 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading CHEN HENG W Issuer Symbol CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP (Check all applicable) [CATY] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner X__Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) 777 NORTH BROADWAY 02/17/2005 EVP/CFO (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Indirect Beneficial anv (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned (I) Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (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	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5. Number of	6. Date Exercisable and	7. Title and Amount o
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orDerivative	Expiration Date	Underlying Securities
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	Securities	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)

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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8	,	Acquired (or Dispose (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	d of				
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Share
Stock Option	\$ 24.8 <u>(1)</u>							11/20/2004(2)	11/20/2013	Common Stock	49,740 (1)
Stock Option	\$ 37	02/17/2005		А		40,100		02/17/2006(3)	02/17/2015	Common Stock	40,100

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Addre	255	Relationships							
Toporting of the raine, rune,	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other					
CHEN HENG W									
777 NORTH BROADWAY			EVP/CFO						
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012									
Signatures									
Heng W. Chen	02/22/2005								

<u>**</u>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) Adjusted to reflect a 2-for-1 stock split effective 9/28/04.
- (2) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 11/20/04.
- (3) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/17/06.

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.