

Van de Ven Michael G
 Form 4
 December 16, 2009

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 Van de Ven Michael G

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO
 [LUV]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 12/15/2009

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 EVP & Chief Operating Officer

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES
 CO., 2702 LOVE FIELD DRIVE
 (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

DALLAS, TX 75235-1611

(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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
Common Stock	12/15/2009		M	33,770	A \$ 10.35	54,696	D
Common Stock	12/15/2009		S	2,027	D \$ 10.79	52,669	D
Common Stock	12/15/2009		S	14,702	D \$ 10.8	37,967	D
Common Stock	12/15/2009		S	14,826	D \$ 10.81	23,141	D
Common Stock	12/15/2009		S	700	D \$ 10.815	22,441	D

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Common Stock	12/15/2009	S	600	D	\$ 10.72	21,841	D	
Common Stock	12/15/2009	S	915	D	\$ 10.722	20,926	D	
Common Stock						338 ⁽¹⁾	I	By ProfitSharing Plan

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

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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)		
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 10.35	12/15/2009		M	33,770	<u>(2)</u> 01/19/2010	Common Stock 33,770		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Van de Ven Michael G SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO. 2702 LOVE FIELD DRIVE DALLAS, TX 75235-1611			EVP & Chief Operating Officer	

Signatures

/s/ Marilyn R. Post on behalf of and as attorney-in-fact for Michael G. Van de Ven

12/16/2009

__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) Holdings reflect shares previously acquired in exempt transactions under the Issuer's ProfitSharing Plan. The information reported herein is based on the most recently available plan statement.
- (2) The option vested in installments and was 100% vested at the time of exercise.

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.