

PIPER JAFFRAY COMPANIES  
 Form 3  
 May 23, 2008

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

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * Wilson David I (Last) (First) (Middle)  FIFTH FLOOR, ONE SOUTH PLACE (Street)  LONDON, UNITED KINGDON EC2M 2RB (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 05/16/2008	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol PIPER JAFFRAY COMPANIES [PJC]	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (give title below) (specify below) CEO of Piper Jaffray Ltd.	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
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**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	49,740	D	^

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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**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)  Date Exercisable	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)  Title	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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	Expiration Date	Amount or Number of Shares	or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	02/12/2007 <sup>(1)</sup> 02/12/2014	Common Stock 756 \$ 47.3	D Â
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	02/22/2008 <sup>(2)</sup> 02/22/2015	Common Stock 685 \$ 39.62	D Â

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Wilson David I FIFTH FLOOR, ONE SOUTH PLACE LONDON, UNITED KINGDONÂ EC2M 2RB	Â	Â	Â CEO of Piper Jaffray Ltd.	Â

## Signatures

/s/ James L. Chosy for David L.  
Wilson 05/23/2008

\_\_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).
- (1) The option vested in full on February 12, 2007
- (2) The option vested in full on February 22, 2008

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.