SMITH JOHN ALEXANDER
Form 4
March 19, 2012

FORM 4

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

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

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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
SMITH JOHN ALEXANDER

(Last) (First) (Middle)

2 TECH DRIVE

(Street)

ANDOVER, MA 01810

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
MKS INSTRUMENTS INC [MKSI]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
03/16/2012

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

_____ Director _____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Sr. VP, ASG

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person
___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	03/16/2012		M		1,634	A	(1)	1,634	D	
Common Stock	03/16/2012		M		1,167	A	(1)	2,801	D	
Common Stock	03/16/2012		F(2)		888	D	$ 29.6	1,913	D	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

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. Pr Deriv Secu (Inst
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Restricted Stock Unit	(1)	03/16/2012		M			1,634	(3)	(3)	Common Stock	1,634	
Restricted Stock Unit	(1)	03/16/2012		M			1,167	(4)	(4)	Common Stock	1,167	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SMITH JOHN ALEXANDER 2 TECH DRIVE ANDOVER, MA 01810			Sr. VP, ASG	

Signatures

/s/Renee M. Donlan POA	03/19/2012
**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) Each restricted stock unit represents the contingent right to receive one share of common stock of MKS Instruments, Inc.

(2) This transaction was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan previously adopted by the reporting person.

(3) These RSUs are subject to the achievement of performance criteria determined in the first year of the grant and thereafter vests in equal annual installments over three years.

(4) The RSUs vest in equal annual installments over three years.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.
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