

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Estimated average burden
 hours per response... 0.5

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * ATSINGER EDWARD G III <small>(Last) (First) (Middle)</small> 4880 SANTA ROSA RD <small>(Street)</small> CAMARILLO, CA 93012 <small>(City) (State) (Zip)</small>	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SALEM COMMUNICATIONS CORP /DE/ [SALM]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) President/CEO
3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/18/2005		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

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			

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)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 22.7	05/18/2005 ⁽¹⁾		A		41,515		05/18/2005	05/18/2010	Class A Common Stock	41,515	\$ 0	41,515	D	
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 16.75	05/18/2005		A		50,000		05/18/2006 ⁽²⁾	05/18/2014 ⁽³⁾	Class A Common Stock	50,000	\$ 0	50,000	D	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
ATSINGER EDWARD G III 4880 SANTA ROSA RD CAMARILLO, CA 93012	X	X	President/CEO	

Signatures

Jonathan L. Block, Attorney-in-fact for Edward G. Atsinger III pursuant to a continuing power of attorney	05/20/2005
<small>**Signature of Reporting Person</small>	<small>Date</small>

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).

The option grant was approved by a committee of Salem Communications Corporation's ("Salem") board of directors on March 9, 2005, subject to stockholder approval of the stock option plan (1) under which the option was granted. Salem's stockholders approved the plan on May 18, 2005.

(2) The option vest in four installments, commencing on May 18, 2005.

(3) Each installment of the option expires on the fifth anniversary of the vesting date. The last installment to vest shall expire May 18, 2014.

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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