FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b). |
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* THOMPSON H BRIAN | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol AXCELIS TECHNOLOGIES INC [ACLS] | | | | | | | cable) or | g Pers | on(s) to Issu 10% Ow | ner |
|--|---|--|---|------------------------|---|---|-----|--|--------------------|---|--|---|--|-----------------------|--|--|
| (Last) | • | rst) HNOLOGIES, 1 | (Middle) | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/15/2011 | | | | | | | | (give title | Other (specify below) | | pecify |
| 108 CHERRY HILL DRIVE | | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | |
| (Street) BEVERLY MA | | A | 01915 | | | | | | | | | X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | |
| (City) | (St | tate) | (Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Date) | | | | | Execution Date | | | Code (Instr. 5) | | | | Beneficia | s Form ally (D) o following (I) (Ir | | n: Direct or Indirect nstr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | | | | | Code V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Transact (Instr. 3 a | ion(s) | | | |
| 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/Yea | 4. Transa Code (| | | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (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: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | | |
| Stock option (right to buy) | \$1.6 | 07/15/2011 | | A ⁽¹⁾ | | 40,000 | | 01/12/2012 | 07/15/2021 | Common Stock | 40,000 | \$0 | 40,000 | | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Granted pursuant to the Axcelis Technologies, Inc. 2000 Stock Plan.

<u>Lynnette C. Fallon, as attorney</u> in fact for H. Brian Thompson

07/18/2011

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- * 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).

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.