

VECTOR GROUP LTD
Form 4
May 16, 2005

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 *
BERNSTEIN RONALD J

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**C/O LIGGETT VECTOR BRANDS
INC., ONE PARK DRIVE**

(Street)

**RESEARCH TRIANGLE
PARK, NC 27709**

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
VECTOR GROUP LTD [VGR]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
05/13/2005

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
President Subsidiary

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 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 | 05/13/2005 | | M | 25,000 A \$ 11.16 | 25,000 | D | |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | | S | 4,000 D \$ 16.25 | 21,000 | D | |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | | S | 300 D \$ 16.26 | 20,700 | D | |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | | S | 200 D \$ 16.27 | 20,500 | D | |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | | S | 1,300 D \$ 16.28 | 19,200 | D | |

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| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|------------|---|-------|---|----------|--------|---|
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 900 | D | \$ 16.29 | 18,300 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 1,500 | D | \$ 16.3 | 16,800 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 600 | D | \$ 16.31 | 16,200 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 600 | D | \$ 16.32 | 15,600 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 700 | D | \$ 16.33 | 14,900 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 100 | D | \$ 16.34 | 14,800 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 2,700 | D | \$ 16.35 | 12,100 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 2,700 | D | \$ 16.36 | 9,400 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 200 | D | \$ 16.37 | 9,200 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 2,500 | D | \$ 16.39 | 6,700 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 2,000 | D | \$ 16.4 | 4,700 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 700 | D | \$ 16.43 | 4,000 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 200 | D | \$ 16.44 | 3,800 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 1,600 | D | \$ 16.45 | 2,200 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 900 | D | \$ 16.46 | 1,300 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 800 | D | \$ 16.47 | 500 | D |
| Common Stock | 05/13/2005 | S | 500 | D | \$ 16.48 | 0 | D |

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

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(9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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| 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 | 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) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Employee stock option (right to buy) | \$ 11.16 | 05/13/2005 | | M | \$ 11.16 | 10/26/2002 10/26/2010 ⁽¹⁾ | Common Stock | 25,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| BERNSTEIN RONALD J C/O LIGGETT VECTOR BRANDS INC. ONE PARK DRIVE RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27709 | | | President | Subsidiary |

Signatures

/s/ Ronald J. Bernstein
Date: 05/13/2005

__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) The options vested as to 79,768 shares on 10/26/02, as to 119,650 shares on 10/26/03 and as to 119,651 shares on 10/26/04.

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.