GEN PROBE INC

Form 4

December 22, 2004

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

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OMB APPROVAL

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

See Instruction

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

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

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * NORDHOFF HENRY L

(First)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Middle)

GEN PROBE INC [GPRO]

(Check all applicable)

GEN-PROBE

INCORPORATED, 10210 **GENETIC CENTER DRIVE** 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 12/20/2004

_X__ Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title _ Other (specify below)

President & CEO

(Street)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

SAN DIEGO, CA 92121

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Table	e I - Non-D	D erivative	Secur	ities Acq	uired, Disposed of	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	//Year) Execution Date, if Transaction of Transaction Date, if Transacti		3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)			5. Amount of Securities Form: Direct Beneficially (D) or Owned Indirect (I) Following (Instr. 4) Reported		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	12/20/2004		M	4,000	A	\$ 12.29	49,458	D	
Common Stock	12/20/2004		S <u>(1)</u>	400	D	\$ 41.64	49,058	D	
Common Stock	12/20/2004		S(1)	422	D	\$ 41.63	48,636	D	
Common Stock	12/20/2004		S <u>(1)</u>	678	D	\$ 41.62	47,958	D	
Common Stock	12/20/2004		S <u>(1)</u>	500	D	\$ 41.6	47,458	D	

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Common Stock	12/20/2004	S(1)	200	D	\$ 41.59	47,258	D
Common Stock	12/20/2004	S <u>(1)</u>	300	D	\$ 41.58	46,958	D
Common Stock	12/20/2004	S <u>(1)</u>	1,500	D	\$ 41.57	45,458	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)

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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number out Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Derivative Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) equired (a) or (sposed of b)) (a)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 12.29	12/20/2004		M	4,000	(2)	06/01/2012	Common Stock	4,000

Dalationshin

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
- U	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
NORDHOFF HENRY L GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED 10210 GENETIC CENTER DRIVE SAN DIEGO, CA 92121	X		President & CEO			

Signatures

/s/ R. William Bowen, Attorney-in-Fact

Reporting Owners 2

**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 sales reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on September 15, 2003.
- (2) Option vests as follows: 25% vest on 6/1/03; 1/48th vesting monthly following 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. 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.

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