

Ahuja Deepak
Form 4
January 12, 2011

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).

**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

OMB
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Ahuja Deepak

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3500 DEER CREEK ROAD

(Street)

PALO ALTO, CA 94304

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol
TESLA MOTORS INC [TSLA]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
01/10/2011

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 ____X____ Other (specify
below) below)
Chief Financial Officer / Chief Financial
Officer

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 | (D) | Price |

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

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information contained in this form are not
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(9-02)

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

| 1. Title of Derivative | 2. Conversion | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if | 4. Transaction | 5. Number of Derivative | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date | 7. Title and Amount Underlying Security |
|---------------------------|---------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|--|--|
|---------------------------|---------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|--|--|

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| Security (Instr. 3) | or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | any (Month/Day/Year) | Code (Instr. 8) | Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | (Month/Day/Year) | | (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------|--------------------|--|------------------|-----|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Incentive Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 28.45 | 01/10/2011 | A | | 2,001 | | <u>(1)</u> | 01/10/2021 | Common Stock | 2,001 |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 28.45 | 01/10/2011 | A | | 27,999 | | <u>(1)</u> | 01/10/2021 | Common Stock | 27,999 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Ahuja Deepak 3500 DEER CREEK ROAD PALO ALTO, CA 94304 | | | Chief Financial Officer | Chief Financial Officer |

Signatures

Deepak Ahuja 01/12/2011

Signature of Date
Reporting Person

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) 1/48th of the shares subject to the option will vest monthly over a period of four years, beginning on date of grant.

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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