

BAMBURG MICHAEL L
Form 4
January 18, 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 *
BAMBURG MICHAEL L

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
NOVASTAR FINANCIAL INC
[NFI]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
8140 WARD PARKWAY, SUITE 300
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
01/18/2005

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Senior Vice President

KANSAS CITY, MO 64114

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)		
			Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price		
NovaStar Financial, Inc. Common Stock	01/18/2005		M		3,000	A	\$ 7.16	347,559 ⁽²⁾	D
NovaStar Financial, Inc. Common Stock	01/18/2005		M		1,118	A	\$ 0	348,677 ⁽²⁾	D

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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)

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. Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option	\$ 7.16	01/18/2005		M	3,000	12/19/2004 12/19/2011	NovaStar Financial, Inc. Common Stock	4,118 <u>(1)</u>

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BAMBURG MICHAEL L 8140 WARD PARKWAY SUITE 300 KANSAS CITY, MO 64114			Senior Vice President	

Signatures

Michael L.
Bamburg 01/18/2005

**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) 1,118 DERs attached to the \$7.16 options
- (2) Of the total, 3,502 shares are owned indirectly.

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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