

TOUFF MICHAEL
Form 4
December 31, 2009

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 *
TOUFF MICHAEL

(Last) (First) (Middle)

4350 S. MONACO STREET, SUITE 500

(Street)

DENVER, CO 80237

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
MDC HOLDINGS INC [MDC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
12/31/2009

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)
Sr VP and General Counsel

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 (A) or (D) Price | | | | |
| Common Stock \$.01 Par Value | 12/31/2009 | | A | | 3,221 (1) | A | \$ 0 98,912 | D | |
| Common Stock \$.01 Par Value | | | | | | | 19,340 | I | 401(k) Plan (2) |
| Common Stock \$.01 Par Value | | | | | | | 9,516 | I | IRA Rollover |

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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Non-Statutory Stock Option (right to buy) <u>(3)</u> | \$ 31.04 | 12/31/2009 | | A | 30,000 | 12/31/2012 12/31/2019 | Common Stock \$.01 Par Value 30 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| TOUFF MICHAEL 4350 S. MONACO STREET SUITE 500 DENVER, CO 80237 | | | Sr VP and General Counsel | |

Signatures

Joseph H. Fretz,
Attorney-in-Fact

12/31/2009

**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) Shares of restricted stock granted December 31, 2009 for no cash consideration pursuant to the Company's 2001 Equity Incentive Plan and a Restricted Stock Agreement. Pursuant to the Restricted Stock Agreement, the restrictions will lapse as to 25% of the shares on December 31, 2010, and cumulatively as to an additional 25% on each of December 31, 2011, 2012 and 2013.

(2) Shares are held in Reporting Person's 401(k) Savings Plan account which changes on a daily basis.

(3) Granted on December 31, 2009 under the Company's 2001 Equity Incentive Plan. This option vests as to 33-1/3% of the shares covered thereby on December 31, 2012 and cumulatively as to an additional 33-1/3% on each of December 31, 2013 and 2014. This option was granted at the December 31, 2009 market close price.

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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