

WONG IRWIN
Form 4
February 22, 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 *
WONG IRWIN

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP
[CATY]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
777 NORTH BROADWAY
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/17/2005

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
EVP - Branch Administration

LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

(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)
Common Stock				(A) or (D) Price	4,511.82 ⁽¹⁾ <u>(2)</u>	D	
Common Stock					20,337 ⁽¹⁾	I	By ESOP

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. 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)				
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount Number Shares
Stock Option	\$ 10.625 <u>(1)</u>					01/20/2005 ⁽³⁾	01/20/2010	Common Stock	3,576		
Stock Option	\$ 15.0475 <u>(1)</u>					01/18/2005 ⁽⁴⁾	01/18/2011	Common Stock	6,448		
Stock Option	\$ 16.275 <u>(1)</u>					02/21/2005 ⁽⁵⁾	02/21/2012	Common Stock	11,08 <u>(1)</u>		
Stock Option	\$ 19.925 <u>(1)</u>					01/16/2005 ⁽⁶⁾	01/16/2013	Common Stock	30,06 <u>(1)</u>		
Stock Option	\$ 24.8 ⁽¹⁾					11/20/2004 ⁽⁷⁾	11/20/2013	Common Stock	143,04 <u>(1)</u>		
Stock Option	\$ 37	02/17/2005		A	32,580	02/17/2006 ⁽⁸⁾	02/17/2015	Common Stock	32,58		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
WONG IRWIN 777 NORTH BROADWAY LOS ANGELES, CA 90012			EVP - Branch Administration	

Signatures

Irwin Wong 02/22/2005

**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) Adjusted to reflect a 2-for-1 stock split effective 9/28/04.
- (2) Includes 12.28 shares acquired through dividend reinvestment year-to-date.
- (3) The option is fully exercisable.

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- (4) The option vests in 2 equal annual installments beginning 1/18/05.
- (5) The option vests in 3 equal annual installments beginning 2/21/05.
- (6) The option vests in 4 equal annual installments beginning 1/16/05.
- (7) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 11/20/04.
- (8) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/17/06.

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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