FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

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	ress of Reporting P BENEDICT		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES CO</u> [MSA]		tionship of Reporting Pe all applicable) Director	10% Owner		
				X	Officer (give title below)	Other (specify below)		
		(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/09/2004	Vice President				
			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable				
(Street)				Line)				
PITTSBURGH	Ŧ	15238			Form filed by One Re	porting Person		
					Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)						

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	tr. 3) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) 2A. Deemed Execution Da if any (Month/Day/Year)		Code (Instr.		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(iiisti: 4)
Common Stock, no par value	03/09/2004		Α		1,510	A	\$ <u>0</u>	41,510	D	

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 Exerc Expiration Da (Month/Day/Y	ate	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Incentive Stock Option	\$25.065	03/09/2004		A		3,989		03/09/2005	03/09/2014	Common Stock, no par value	3,989	\$25.07	3,989	D	
Non- statutory Stock Option	\$25.065	03/09/2004		A		9,270		03/09/2005	03/09/2014	Common Stock, no par value	9,270	\$25.07	9,270	D	

Explanation of Responses:

Remarks:

Douglas K. McClaine,

<u>Attorney in Fact, Power of</u> <u>Attorney</u> 03/11/2004

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.