Wege D Michael Form 3 September 23, 2011

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement HERSHEY CO [HSY] Wege D Michael (Month/Day/Year) 09/13/2011 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 100 CRYSTAL A DRIVE (Check all applicable) (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) 10% Owner Director _X_ Form filed by One Reporting _X__ Officer Other Person (give title below) (specify below) HERSHEY, PAÂ 17033 Form filed by More than One **SVP Chief Commercial Officer** Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial (Instr. 4) Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) D Â Common Stock 28,253 Common Stock 790,646 I 401(k) Plan Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

currently valid OMB control number.

3. Title and Amount of 6. Nature of Indirect 1. Title of Derivative Security 2. Date Exercisable and 5. (Instr. 4) **Expiration Date** Securities Underlying Conversion Ownership Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) Derivative Security or Exercise Form of Ownership (Instr. 4) Price of Derivative (Instr. 5) Derivative Security:

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Security	Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Non-qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	(1)	02/14/2015	Common Stock	4,550	\$ 61.7	D	Â
Non-qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	(1)	02/15/2016	Common Stock	6,050	\$ 52.3	D	Â
Non-qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	(1)	04/22/2017	Common Stock	8,550	\$ 54.68	D	Â
Non-qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	(1)	02/12/2018	Common Stock	16,440	\$ 35.87	D	Â
Non-qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	(1)	02/16/2019	Common Stock	22,830	\$ 34.89	D	Â
Non-qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	(1)	02/22/2020	Common Stock	20,495	\$ 39.26	D	Â
Non-qualified Stock Option (Right to Buy)	(1)	02/21/2021	Common Stock	20,505	\$ 51.42	D	Â
Restricted Stock Units	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	875	\$ 0 (3)	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
• 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Wege D Michael 100 CRYSTAL A DRIVE HERSHEY, PA 17033	Â	Â	SVP Chief Commercial Officer	Â		

Signatures

Reporting Person

D. Michael
Wege

**Signature of
Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).
- Options vest according to the following schedule: 25% vest on the first anniversary of the award date, an additional 25% vest on the (1) second anniversary of the award date, an additional 25% vest on the third anniversary of the award date, and the options become fully vested on the fourth anniversary of the award date.
- (2) Restricted Stock Units ("RSUs") were granted on July 7, 2008 of which 875 units vested on 8/7/2009, 875 units vested on 7/7/2010, 875 units vested on 7/7/2011 and the remaining 875 units from that grant will vest on 7/7/2012.
- (3) Each Restricted Stock Unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Common Stock of The Hershey Company or its cash equivalent.

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

Reporting Owners 2

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