#### SOBEY MARK STEWART

Form 4

December 10, 2012

### FORM 4

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

January 31, Expires: 2005

0.5

**OMB APPROVAL** 

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

**SECURITIES** Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Estimated average burden hours per response...

Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * SOBEY MARK STEWART |         |          | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol COHERENT INC [COHR] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  |  |  |
|--|---------|----------|--|---|--|--|
| (Last)   | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction  | (Check all applicable)  |  |  |
| 5100 PATRICK HENRY DRIVE                                     |         |          | (Month/Day/Year)<br>12/06/2012   | Director 10% Owner _X Officer (give title Other (specify below) EVP                           |  |  |
| (Street)   |         |          | 4. If Amendment, Date Original   | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check   |  |  |
|  |         |          | Filed(Month/Day/Year)  | Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting |  |  |

#### SANTA CLARA, CA 95054

| (City)                               | (State) (   | Zip) Table | e I - Non-D   | erivative | Secur            | rities Acq   | uired, Disposed o   | f, or Beneficial | ly Owned |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------|---|-----------|------------------|--|---|------------------|----------|
| 1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) |            | 3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) |           |                  | Beneficially (D) or Beneficially Owned Indirect (I) Owner Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |                  |          |
|                                      |   |            | Code V  | Amount    | (A)<br>or<br>(D) | Price  | Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)                    |                  |          |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 12/06/2012  |            | M   | 1,913     | A                | \$ 0   | 8,891   | D                |          |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 12/06/2012  |            | F   | 885 (1)   | D                | \$<br>47.42  | 8,006   | D                |          |

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Person

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# Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transactic<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number on f Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                    | 7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and | Securities                           |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
|   |   |   | Code V                                 | (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5)                                   | Date<br>Exercisable  | Expiration<br>Date | Title                                     | Amoun<br>or<br>Numbe<br>of<br>Shares |
| Performance<br>Restricted<br>Stock Units            | \$ 0  | 12/06/2012                              | M                                      | 1,913<br>(2)   | 12/06/2012   | 12/06/2012         | Common<br>Stock                           | 1,913                                |

# **Reporting Owners**

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships |           |         |       |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|--|--|--|
|                                | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |  |  |  |
| SOBEY MARK STEWART             |               |           |         |       |  |  |  |
| 5100 PATRICK HENRY DRIVE       |               |           | EVP     |       |  |  |  |
| SANTA CLARA, CA 95054          |               |           |         |       |  |  |  |

# **Signatures**

/s/ Leen Simonet, attorney-in-fact

\*\*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) Represents shares withheld to satisfy minimum tax withholding obligations for released performance restricted stock units.
- (2) 1913 shares received out of a possible 4666 maximum share payout. Derivatives beneficially owned total reduced by the 2753 shares not earned.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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