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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).     |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <sup>*</sup><br>Schwarz Franz |                   |       | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol<br>MATTHEWS INTERNATIONAL CORP [MATW] |                       |   |                        |               |   | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br>(Check all applicable)<br>Director 10% Owner |  |  |
|---|-------------------|-------|--|-----------------------|---|------------------------|---------------|---|--|--|--|
| (Last)<br>RUDOLF-DIESELS  | (First)<br>TRE.16 |       | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br>11/16/2005                           |                       |   |                        |               | X_Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)   Gen Mgr, Matthews Int'l GmbH   |  |  |  |
| (Street)<br>JULICH, 2M 52428  |                   |       | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)                                     |                       |   |                        |               | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)<br>_X_Form filed by One Reporting Person<br>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 2. Transaction<br>Date (Month/Day/Ye              |                   |       | Execution Date, if   | ecution Date, if Code |   | (A) or Disposed of (D) |               |   | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially<br>Owned Following Reported<br>Transaction(s)               | Ownership                                      | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial |
|   |                   |       | (Month/Day/Year)   | Code                  | v | Amount                 | (A) or<br>(D) | Price   | (Instr. 3 and 4)   | Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)                |

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

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

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

|             | ( <i>e.g.</i> , puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |                  |                    |            |     |            |      |                   |                 |               |        |            |                |                    |             |
|-------------|---|------------------|--------------------|------------|-----|------------|------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------|------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 1. Title of | 2.  |                  | 3A. Deemed         | 4.         |     | 5. Numb    | ber  | 6. Date Exercisal | ble and         | 7. Title and  |        |            | 9. Number of   |                    | 11. Nature  |
| Derivative  | Conversion  | Date             | Execution Date, if | Transact   | ion | of         |      | Expiration Date   |                 | Amount of     |        | Derivative | Derivative     | Ownership          | of Indirect |
| Security    | or Exercise   | (Month/Day/Year) |                    | Code       |     | Derivati   | ve   | (Month/Day/Yea    | ur)             | Underlying    | ;      | Security   | Securities     | Form of            | Beneficial  |
| (Instr. 3)  | Price of  |                  | (Month/Day/Year)   | (Instr. 8) |     | Securitie  |      |                   |                 | Securities    |        | < / /      |                |                    | Ownership   |
|             | Derivative  |                  |                    |            |     | Acquired   | d    |                   |                 | (Instr. 3 and | d 4)   |            |                | Security:          | (Instr. 4)  |
|             | Security  |                  |                    |            |     | (A) or     |      |                   |                 |               |        |            | 0              | Direct (D)         |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |            |     | Disposed   | d of |                   |                 |               |        |            | 1              | or Indirect        |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |            |     | (D)        |      |                   |                 |               |        |            | Transaction(s) | < / </td <td></td> |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |            |     | (Instr. 3, | 4,   |                   |                 |               |        |            | (Instr. 4)     | (Instr. 4)         |             |
|             |   |                  |                    | -          |     | and 5)     |      |                   |                 |               |        |            |                |                    |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |            |     |            |      |                   |                 |               | Amount |            |                |                    |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |            |     |            |      | Date              |                 |               | or     |            |                |                    |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |            |     |            |      | Exercisable       | Expiration Date | Title         | Number |            |                |                    |             |
|             |   |                  |                    |            |     |            |      |                   |                 |               | of     |            |                |                    |             |
|             |   |                  |                    | Code       | V   | (A)        | (D)  |                   |                 |               | Shares |            |                |                    |             |
| Employee    |   |                  |                    |            |     |            |      |                   |                 | Class A       |        |            |                |                    |             |
| Stock       | \$ 37.29  | 11/16/2005       |                    | А          |     | 10.000     |      | 11/16/2008(1)     | 11/16/2015(2)   | Common        | 10 000 | \$ 37 29   | 10,000         | D                  |             |
|             | \$ 51.27  | 11/10/2005       |                    | ~~         |     | 10,000     |      | 11/10/2008        | 11/10/2015      |               | 10,000 | φ 51.2)    | 10,000         | D                  |             |
| Option      |   |                  |                    |            |     |            |      |                   |                 | Stock         |        |            |                |                    |             |

## **Reporting Owners**

|   | Relationships |           |                              |       |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address                            | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                      | Other |  |  |  |  |  |
| Schwarz Franz<br>RUDOLF-DIESELSTRE.16<br>JULICH, 2M 52428 |               |           | Gen Mgr, Matthews Int'l GmbH |       |  |  |  |  |  |

### **Signatures**

| Franz J. Schwarz                 | 11/17/2005 |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Signature of Reporting<br>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) Date first exercisable. Subject to the agreement entered into under the Company's 1992 Stock Incentive Plan, in general, the options vest in increments of one-third upon the later to occur of November 16, 2008, 2009 and 2010, and the stock price of the Company reaching 110%, 133% and 160% of the exercise price for ten consecutive trading days, respectively.

(2) Date last exercisable in accordance with such agreement.

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.