

Shelly Craig Stephen  
 Form 4  
 January 30, 2009

**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 \*  
 Shelly Craig Stephen

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 3200 INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD  
 (Street)

VAN BUREN, AR 72956

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 USA TRUCK INC [USAK]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
 01/28/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 VP - Corp Strategy

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D) Price  |   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 01/28/2009 <sup>(1)</sup>            |  | A                              | 0 <sup>(1)</sup>  | A <u>(1)</u> 23,920 <sup>(1)</sup>  | D  |                                   |

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

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

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| 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) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Stock Option (right to buy) Common Stock   | (2)  | 01/28/2009(2)                        |  | A                              | 0 (2)   | (2) (2)  | Common Stock  | 0 (2) \$ 0                                 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                    |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer            | Other |
| Shelly Craig Stephen<br>3200 INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD<br>VAN BUREN, AR 72956 |               |           | VP - Corp Strategy |       |

Signatures

Darron R. Ming, Attorney-in-fact, pursuant to a POA previously filed 01/30/2009

\*\*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) On January 28, 2009, the Compensation Committee of the Company's Board of Directors approved the USA Truck, Inc. Executive Team Incentive Plan ("Plan") which granted the Reporting Person the right to acquire Restricted Stock of the Company. The initial award granted under this Plan will be determined based upon the market price of the Company's Common Stock on a future date. An amendment to this Form 4 will be filed once the quantity of the award has been determined.
- (2) On January 28, 2009, the Compensation Committee of the Company's Board of Directors approved the USA Truck, Inc. Executive Team Incentive Plan ("Plan") which granted the Reporting Person an option (right to buy) of the Company's Common Stock. The initial award granted under this Plan will be determined based upon the market price of the Company's Common Stock on a future date. An amendment to this Form 4 will be filed once the exercise price and quantity of the award have been determined.

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.