FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

ı	OMB APPROVAL									
	OMB Number:	3235-0287								
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	hours per response:	0.5								

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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* ESSL GERALD J						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol EAGLE MATERIALS INC [EXP]									ck all applic Directo	*		son(s) to Iss 10% Ov Other (s	wner		
(Last) (First) (Middle) 3811 TURTLE CREEK BLVD. SUITE 1100					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/04/2004									Executive Vice President							
(Street) DALLAS TX 75219					_ 4. I1 -	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person						
(City) (State) (Zip)																					
Table I - Non-Deriv 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Trans. Date (Month/It					saction	ar) i	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Yea		3. Transaction Code (Instr.					or 5. Amo 4 and Securit Benefic Owned		nt of es ally Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership		
									Code V		Amount	nount (A) (C)		ce	Reported Transact (Instr. 3	tion(s)			(Instr. 4)		
Common Stock															4,543			D			
		Т	able II - I (juired, [s, option						Owned						
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemee Execution I if any (Month/Day	Date,	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)				6. Date Exercis. Expiration Date (Month/Day/Yea			7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Securi (Instr. 3 and 4)		[9 (3. Price of Derivative Security Instr. 5)	tive derivativ		10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisal		opiration	Title	Amou or Numb of Share	oer							
Non- Qualified EBIT Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$69.9	08/04/2004			A		1,147		(1)	08	3/04/2011	Common Stock	1,14	17	\$0.00	1,147	,	D			
Non- Qualified ROE Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$69.9	08/04/2004			A		1,147		(2)	08	8/04/2011	Common Stock	1,14	17	\$0.00	1,147	,	D			

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Shares vest based upon the Company's achievement of certain levels of earnings before interest and taxes.
- 2. Shares vest based upon the Company's achievement of certain levels of return on equity.

Remarks:

Kenneth M. Avery as attorneyin-fact for Gerald J. Essl

08/06/2004

** 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.