Latham John K
Form 3
January 14, 2010

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 Person *
Â Latham John K

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O MARKEL CORPORATION,Â 4521 HIGHWOODS PARKWAY

(Street)

GLEN ALLEN,Â VAÂ 23060

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year)
01/11/2010

3. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
MARKEL CORP [MKL]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

_____ Director
_____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below)
_____ Other (specify below)
Managing Director

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person
___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Common Stock	6,941.511 (1)	D	Â
Common Stock	1,343.045	I	401(K) Plan (2)

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

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

Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	(Instr. 4) Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Price of Derivative Security	Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Latham John K C/O MARKEL CORPORATION 4521 HIGHWOODS PARKWAY GLEN ALLEN,Â VAÂ 23060	Â	Â	Â Managing Director	Â

Signatures

Linda S. Rotz, Attorney-in-fact for John K. Latham	01/14/2010
**Signature of Reporting Person	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).

(1) Includes 676 restricted stock units granted pursuant to the Markel Corporation Omnibus Incentive Plan, of which 120 units will vest on December 31, 2010, 271 units will vest on December 31, 2011, and 285 units will vest on December 31, 2012.

(2) Holdings under the Markel Corporation 401(K) Plan are reported in units. The information reported herein is based on a plan statement dated as of December 31, 2009 and utilizes the closing stock price on that date of $340.00. As of December 31, 2009, a unit under the Plan represented one share of Common Stock.

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