JOHNSON JOEL W Form 4 December 19, 2002

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

_ 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

OMB Number: 3235-0287 Expires: January 31, 2005 Estimated average burden hours per response. . .0.5

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

Filed By Romeo & Dye's Instant Form 4 Filer www.section16.net

1. Name and A Johnson, Joel			me and Tic rp (USB)	cker or	6. Relationship Person(s) to Issuer (Check						
(Last) Hormel Foods 1 Hormel Place	of Repo	rting	ntification I g Person, (voluntary)	Numbe	Mo	Statement for onth/Day/Year 17/02		-			
Austin, MN 55					Dat	f Amendment, te of Original onth/Day/Year)	(Check Applica X Form filed by Person	Form filed by More than One			
(Cit	(City) (State) (Zip)				e I Non-E)erivat	posed of, or Beneficially Owned				
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	Execution Date,	action Code		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 & 5) Amount (A) Price or (D)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transactions(s) (Instr. 3 & 4)	6. Owner-ship Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	

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

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FORM 4 (continued) Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

		\ 0 /	<u> </u>	,		,	/				
1. Title of	2. Conver-	3. Trans-	3A.	4.	5.	6. Date Exercisable	7. Title and	8. Price of	9. Number of	10.	11. N
Derivative	sion or	action	Deemed	Trans-	Number	and Expiration	Amount of	Derivative	Derivative	Owner-	of Inc
Security	Exercise	Date	Execution	action	of	Date	Underlying	Security	Securities	ship	Benef
	Price of		Date,	Code	Derivative	(Month/Day/	Securities	(Instr. 5)	Beneficially	Form	Owne
(Instr. 3)	Derivative	(Month/	if any		Securities	Year)	(Instr. 3 & 4)		Owned	of Deriv-	(Instr
	Security	Day/	(Month/	(Instr.	Acquired				Following	ative	
		Year)	Day/	8)	(A) or				Reported	Security:	
			Year)		Disposed				Transaction(s)	Direct	
					of (D)				(Instr. 4)	(D)	
										or	

^{*} If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

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1 1		i i		1	(Instr. 3,							ı	Indiract		
						(Instr. 4 & 5)							Indirect (I)		
				Code	V	(A)		Date	Expira-	Title	Amount		(Instr. 4)		
						, ,		Exer-cisable	tion		or				
									Date		Number of				
											Shares				
Restricted Stock Units	1-for-1	12/17/02		A		2,500		(1)	(1)	Common Stock	2,500	2,500	D		
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$21.64	12/17/02		A		7,200		(2)	12/17/12	Common Stock	7,200	7,200	D		
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$18.95								10/01/12	Common Stock	575	575	D		
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$23.18								7/01/12	Common Stock	1,600	1,600	D		
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$22.16								4/01/12	Common Stock		575	D		
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$20.78								1/02/12	Common Stock	9,150	9,150	D		
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$20.78								1/02/12	Common Stock	8,600	8,600	D		
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$20.78								1/02/12	Common Stock	1,500	1,500	D		
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$22.02								10/01/11	Common Stock	625	625	D		
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$23.31								7/02/11	Common Stock	375	375	D		
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$23.20								4/02/11	Common Stock	625	625	D		
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$22.60								3/12/11	Common Stock	7,350	7,350	D		
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$23.34									Common Stock	15,000	15,000	D		
Non-Employee Director Stock	\$16.85		_						4/19/10	Common Stock	6,451	6,451	D		

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Option (Right to Buy)									
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)				4/20/09	Common Stock	6,451	6,451	D	
Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)				2/17/09	Common Stock	9,487	9,487	D	

Explanation of Responses:

(1) The restricted stock units vest in four equal annual installments beginning on December 17, 2003. Vested units are payable in common stock when the reporting person retires in accordance with the Company's director retirement policy.

(2) The option vests in four equal annual installments beginning on December 17, 2003.

By: /s/ By Lee R. Mitau
For Joel W. Johnson

12/19/02 Date

**Signature of Reporting Person

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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^{**}Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).