Merk Thomas Form 4 December 19, 2017

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

OMB

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES** Form 4 or Form 5

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Merk Thomas

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Issuer

COHERENT INC [COHR]

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 12/15/2017

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Director 10% Owner Other (specify

(Check all applicable)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

X_ Officer (give title) below) EVP & GM, ILS

5100 PATRICK HENRY DRIVE

(Street)

(State)

(Zin)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

SANTA CLARA, CA 95054

(C:tr.)

| (City) | (State) | Tabl | e I - Non-I | Derivative | Secui | rities Acqu | ired, Disposed of | , or Beneficiall | y Owned |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|-------|--------------|--|---|---|
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securi on(A) or Di (Instr. 3, | spose | d of (D) | 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2017 | | M | 1,147 | A | \$ 0 | 3,145 | D | |
| Common Stock | 12/15/2017 | | F | 593 (1) | D | \$ 288.03 | 2,552 | D | |

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

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

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

| 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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8) | | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | |
|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|--|--------------------|---|--|
| | | | | Code V | 7 (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Restricted Stock Units | \$ 0 | 12/15/2017 | | M | | 1,147 | 12/15/2017 | 12/15/2017 | Common Stock | 1,147 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|--|--|--|
| . 0 | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |
| Merk Thomas | | | EVP & | | | | |
| 5100 PATRICK HENRY DRIVE | | | GM, ILS | | | | |
| CANTA CLADA CA 05054 | | | UM, ILS | | | | |

Signatures

/s/ Thomas
Merk

**Signature of Date

**Signature of Reporting Person

SANTA CLARA, CA 95054

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) Represents shares withheld to satisfy minimum tax withholding obligations for released restricted stock units.

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.

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