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

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

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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 MERRILL LYNCH & CO I | 2. Issuer Name BlackRock Ir | | | Trading S | ymbol | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------|--|---|--|--|--|
| (Last) (First) 4 WORLD FINANCIAL CI VESEY STREET | 3. Date of Earlie 12/23/2008 | st Transact | tion (| (Month/Da | ay/Yea | Officer (give title below) | Other (specify b | below) | | |
| (Street) | | 4. If Amendmen | t, Date Ori | gina | l Filed(Mon | nth/Day/ | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing Form filed by One Reporting Person _X_Form filed by More than One Reporting | | ble Line) | |
| NEW YORK, NY 10080 (City) (State) | (Zip) | r | Fable I - N | on-I | Derivative | Secur | ities Acqui | ired, Disposed of, or Beneficially | Owned | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | Date E (Month/Day/Year) a | A. Deemed Execution Date, if | 3. Transactio Code | | 1 | ties Ac sed of 4 and | cquired (A) (D) | · · · | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) | 7. Nature of Indirec Beneficia Ownershi (Instr. 4) |
| | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | | (I) (Instr. 4) | × , |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | | S | | 100 | D | \$ 130.085 | 52,351,208 (<u>2) (3)</u> | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | | S | | 1,300 | D | \$ 130.08 | 52,349,908 (<u>2)</u> (<u>3</u>) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | | S | | 1,400 | D | \$ 130.07 | ⁷ 52,348,508 ⁽²⁾ (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | | S | | 2,000 | D | \$ 130.06 | 52,346,508 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | | S | | 2,140 | D | \$ 130.05 | 52,344,368 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | | S | | 1,240 | D | \$ 130.04 | 52,343,128 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | | S | | 1,860 | D | \$ 130.03 | 52,341,268 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | | S | | 2,040 | D | \$ 130.02 | 2 52,339,228 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | | S | | 4,378 | D | \$ 130.01 | 52,334,850 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | | S | | 25,833 | D | \$ 130 | 52,309,017 ^{(2) (3)} | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | | S | | 200 | D | \$ 129.995 | 52,308,817 ^{(2) (3)} | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | | S | | 400 | D | \$ 129.99 |) 52,308,417 ^{(2) (3)} | Ι | See footnote |

| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 300 | D | \$ 129.985 | 52,308,117 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
|--------------|------------|---|-------|---|----------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 1,700 | D | \$ 129.98 | 52,306,417 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 400 | D | \$ 129.975 | 52,306,017 (2) (3) | I | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 200 | D | \$ 129.97 | 52,305,817 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 400 | D | \$ 129.965 | 52,305,417 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 300 | D | \$ 129.9625 | 52,305,117 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 100 | D | \$ 129.96 | 52,305,017 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 100 | D | \$ 129.955 | 52,304,917 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 700 | D | \$ 129.95 | 52,304,217 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 200 | D | \$ 129.945 | 52,304,017 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 400 | D | \$ 129.94 | 52,303,617 (2) (3) | I | See footnote |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 300 | D | \$ 129.9325 | 52,303,317 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 600 | D | \$ 129.93 | 52,302,717 ⁽²⁾ (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 400 | D | \$ 129.92 | 52,302,317 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 160 | D | \$ 129.91 | 52,302,157 (2) (3) | Ι | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 700 | D | \$ 129.90 | 52,301,457 ⁽²⁾ (3) | I | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 700 | D | \$ 129.89 | 52,300,757 (<u>2) (3)</u> | I | See footnote (1) |
| Common Stock | 12/23/2008 | S | 100 | D | \$ 129.885 | 52,300,657 (<u>2) (3)</u> | I | See footnote (1) |

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

SEC 1474 (9-02)

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 control number.

| 1. Title o Derivativ Security (Instr. 3) | e Conversion | Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | Code | of De Se Ac (A Di of | | a ve es d d | 5. Date Exer and Expiration Month/Day | on Date /Year) | Amo Unde Secu | unt of rlying | Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | Securities Beneficially Owned Following | Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---|--------------|--------------------------|---|--------|--|--------|-------------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | and 5) | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Code V | 7 (A | A) (I | E | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
|---|----------|--------------|---------|-------|
| MERRILL LYNCH & CO INC 4 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER 250 VESEY STREET NEW YORK, NY 10080 | | Х | | |
| MERRILL LYNCH INVESTMENT MANAGERS LP C/O MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC. 4 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER, 250 VESEY ST. NEW YORK, NY 10080 | | Х | | |
| Merrill Lynch Group, Inc. C/O MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC. 4 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER, 250 VESEY ST. NEW YORK, NY 10080 | | Х | | |
| Princeton Services, Inc. C/O MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC. 4 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER, 250 VESEY ST. NEW YORK, NY 10080 | | Х | | |
| MERRILL LYNCH PIERCE FENNER & SMITH INC C/O MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC. 4 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER, 250 VESEY ST. NEW YORK, NY 10080 | | Х | | |
| MERRILL LYNCH BANK & TRUST CO FSB C/O MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC. 4 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER, 250 VESEY ST. NEW YORK, NY 10080 | | Х | | |

Signatures

| Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. By: Jonathan Santelli, Assistant Secretary | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| -**Signature of Reporting Person | | | | | | |
| Merrill Lynch Investment Managers, L.P. By: Princeton Services, Inc., its General Partner. By: Jonathan Santelli, Vice President and Secretary | 12/29/2008 | | | | | |
| -**Signature of Reporting Person | | | | | | |
| Merrill Lynch Group, Inc. By: Jonathan Santelli, Authorized Person | 12/29/2008 | | | | | |
| Signature of Reporting Person | | | | | | |
| Princeton Services, Inc. By: Jonathan Santelli, Vice President and Secretary | 12/29/2008 | | | | | |
| ***Signature of Reporting Person | Date | | | | | |

| Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc. By: Jonathan Santelli, Assistant Secretary | 12/29/2008 Date |
|---|--------------------|
| Merrill Lynch Bank & Trust Co., FSB By: Jonathan Santelli, Authorized Person | 12/29/2008 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).

This statement is being filed by Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. ("ML&Co"), Merrill Lynch Investment Managers, L.P. ("MLIM"), Merrill Lynch Group, Inc. ("ML Group"),
Princeton Services, Inc. ("Princeton Services"), Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("MLPF&S") and Merrill Lynch Bank & Trust Co., FSB ("MLBT-FSB") (collectively, the "Reporting Persons"). Princeton Services is the general partner of MLIM and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ML Group, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ML&Co. MLBT-FSB is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ML&Co.

On December 23, 2008, MLIM sold a total of 200,000 shares of Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Common Stock") of BlackRock Inc. ("BlackRock") held by (2) it pursuant to Rule 144 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, after which ML&Co indirectly through its wholly-owned subsidiaries beneficially owned 52,196,417 shares of Common Stock of BlackRock and MLIM and Princeton Services each beneficially owned zero shares of Common Stock of BlackRock.

In addition, on December 23, 2008, each of the following transactions were effected, each of which is exempt from Section 16 of the Exchange Act pursuant to Rule 16a-13 (3) or otherwise: ML&Co contributed all of the Shares held by it to ML Group, MLIM transferred all the shares of Common Stock (other than the 200,000 shares of Common Stock sold pursuant to Rule 144) and Preferred Stock held by it to ML Group and each of Fund Asset Management, L.P. and Princeton Administrators, L.P. (each of which is

Stock sold pursuant to Rule 144) and Preterred Stock held by it to ML Group and each of Fund Asset Management, L.P. and Princeton Administrators, L.P. (each of which is a wholly-owned direct or indirect subsidiary of ML&Co) transferred all of the shares of Common Stock held by it to ML Group.

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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