#### KIRSHNER ALAN I

Form 4

January 05, 2006

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

OMB

Number:

3235-0287 January 31,

0.5

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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

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 * KIRSHNER ALAN I			2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol MARKEL CORP [MKL]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  (Check all applicable)				
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(				
C/O MARKEL CORPORATION, 4521 HIGHWOODS PKWY			(Month/Day/Year) 01/05/2006	_X_ Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)  Chairman and CEO				
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check				
GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person				

(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I Non Desiratine Countries Associated Discount of an Desirable Council
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	3. Transaction	4. SecuritionAcquired Disposed	(A) or	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)  Code V	(Instr. 3, 4	` ′	Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock						54,220	D	
Common Stock						7,112.582 (1)	I	401(K) Plan (2)
Common Stock						243.16 (1)	I	By Spouse - 401(K) Plan (2) (3)

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)

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

2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Title	and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction	onNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amoun	nt of	Derivative	Deriv
or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Underl	ying	Security	Secui
Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securit	ies	(Instr. 5)	Bene
Derivative				Securities			(Instr. 3	3 and 4)		Owne
Security				Acquired						Follo
				(A) or						Repo
				Disposed						Trans
				of (D)						(Instr
				(Instr. 3,						
				4, and 5)						
								Amount		
					Date	Expiration				
					Exercisable	Date				
			Code V	(A) (D)						
	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative	Conversion (Month/Day/Year) or Exercise Price of Derivative	Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if or Exercise any Price of (Month/Day/Year) Derivative	Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction or Exercise any Code Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8)  Derivative Security	Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionNumber or Exercise any Code of Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Derivative Security Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3,	Conversion or Exercise any Code of (Month/Day/Pear) Price of (Month/Day/Year) Derivative Security  Code of (Month/Day/Pear) Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)  Date Exercisable	Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any Code of (Month/Day/Year)  Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Derivative  Security Securities  Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)  Date Expiration Date  Expiration Date  Code of (Month/Day/Year)  (Instr. 8) Derivative  Securities  Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionNumber Expiration Date Amour or Exercise any Code of (Month/Day/Year) Underly Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Derivative Securities (Instr. 5) Derivative Securities (Instr. 7) Derivative (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)  Date Expiration Date Amour Code of (Month/Day/Year) Underly Securities (Instr. 7) Date Expiration Exercisable Date Title	Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any Code of (Month/Day/Year) Underlying Code of (Month/Day/Year) Underlying Securities  Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Derivative  Security Securities  Securities  Acquired  (A) or  Disposed of (D)  (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)  Date  Expiration Date  Amount of (Month/Day/Year)  Underlying  Securities  Securities  (Instr. 3 and 4)  Amount of (Month/Day/Year)  Underlying  Securities  Securities  Faction Date  Expiration Date  Amount of (Month/Day/Year)  Underlying  Securities  Securities  Faction Date  Expiration Date  Expiration Date  Or Number of	Conversion of Month/Day/Year)

Relationship

## **Reporting Owners**

4521 HIGHWOODS PKWY GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Ketationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
KIRSHNER ALAN I						
C/O MARKEL CORPORATION	X		Chairman and CEO			

# **Signatures**

Alan I. Kirshner 01/05/2006

\*\*Signature of Person 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).
- (1) This Form 4 is filed to update year-end 401(K) Plan holdings.
- Holdings under the Markel Corporation 401(K) Plan are reported in units. The information reported herein is based on a plan statement (2) dated as of December 30, 2005 and utilizes the closing stock price on that date of \$317.05 per share. As of 12/30/2005, a unit under the Plan represented one share of Common Stock.
- (3) Beneficial ownership of securities is expressly disclaimed.

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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