

HENNESSY JOHN L  
 Form 4  
 December 14, 2004

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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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 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 \*  
 HENNESSY JOHN L

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS INC [ATHR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 C/O ATHEROS COMMUNICATIONS, INC., 529 ALMANOR AVENUE  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/14/2004

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

SUNNYVALE,, CA 94085  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

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

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

**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 (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	12/09/2004		G	V 20,000 D \$ 0	434,743	I	By the 1993 Hennessy Revocable Trust
Common Stock	12/14/2004		S <sup>(1)</sup>	1,562 D \$ 11.11	31,250	I	By son
Common Stock	12/14/2004		S <sup>(1)</sup>	1,562 D \$ 11.11	31,250	I	By son



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These shares are held in trust for the benefit of the reporting person's son. The reporting person's sister-in-law is the trustee of the trust.

- (2) The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities, and the filing of this report is not an admission that the reporting person is the beneficial owner of these securities for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

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.