

MIDDLEBY CORP
Form 4
February 28, 2012

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2015
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 *
BASSOUL SELIM A

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
MIDDLEBY CORP [MIDD]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
C/O THE MIDDLEBY CORPORATION, 1400 TOASTMASTER DRIVE

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/23/2012

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
CEO, Chairman, President

(Street)
ELGIN, IL 60120

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 (A) 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
Common Stock	02/23/2012		M ⁽²⁾	184,408	A \$ 2.95	766,765	D
Common Stock	02/23/2012		F ⁽³⁾	56,278	D \$ 99.53	710,487	D
Common Stock	02/23/2012		S ⁽¹⁾	6,468	D \$ 100	704,019	D
Common Stock	02/24/2012		S ⁽¹⁾	20,675	D \$ 100	683,344	D

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

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.

SEC 1474
(9-02)

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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 2.95	02/23/2012		M ⁽²⁾	184,408	02/26/2007 ⁽²⁾ 02/26/2012	Common Stock 184,408

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BASSOUL SELIM A C/O THE MIDDLEBY CORPORATION 1400 TOASTMASTER DRIVE ELGIN, IL 60120	X		CEO, Chairman, President	

Signatures

Martin M. 02/28/2012
Lindsay POA

 **Signature of Reporting 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) Shares sold pursuant to existing 10b5-1 plan
- (2) Exercise of stock options granted on February 26, 2002 at a split adjusted exercise price of \$2.95. The option grant vested in 20% increments over a five year period
- (3) Transaction related to the surrender of shares to fund reporting person's tax liability related to stock option exercise

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.