

SKILLSOFT PUBLIC LIMITED CO  
Form 4  
August 26, 2008

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
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 \*  
TOWNSEND MARK

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
SKILLSOFT PUBLIC LIMITED CO  
[SKII]

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
300 INNOVATIVE WAY, SUITE 201  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
08/22/2008

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
EVP Technology

NASHUA, NH 03062

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

(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 (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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount or Price		
American Depository Shares <sup>(1)</sup>	08/22/2008		M		4,700 A \$ 4.06	453,466	D
American Depository Shares <sup>(1)</sup>	08/22/2008		S <sup>(2)</sup>		4,700 D \$ 10.7096 <sup>(3)</sup>	448,766	D
American Depository Shares <sup>(1)</sup>	08/25/2008		M		57,800 A \$ 4.06	506,566	D
American Depository Shares <sup>(1)</sup>	08/25/2008		S <sup>(2)</sup>		57,800 D \$	448,766	D

Depository Shares <sup>(1)</sup>	10.7001 <u>(4)</u>			
American Depository Shares <sup>(1)</sup>		58,785	I	See Footnote <u>(5)</u>

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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Amount or Number of Shares	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Option to Purchase Ordinary Shares <sup>(6)</sup>	\$ 4.06	08/22/2008		M	4,700	<u>(7)</u> 08/16/2012	Ordinary Shares <sup>(6)</sup>	4,700	
Option to Purchase Ordinary Shares <sup>(6)</sup>	\$ 4.06	08/25/2008		M	57,800	<u>(7)</u> 08/16/2012	Ordinary Shares <sup>(6)</sup>	57,800	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
TOWNSEND MARK 300 INNOVATIVE WAY SUITE 201 NASHUA, NH 03062			EVP Technology	

## Signatures

/s/Greg Porto (for Mark  
Townsend)

08/26/2008

\_\_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) American Depositary Shares evidenced by American Depositary Receipts, each of which represents one ordinary share of SkillSoft Public Limited Company, nominal value 0.11 (Euro) per ordinary share.
- (2) Sale made pursuant to Mr. Townsend's Rule 10b5-1 Plan adopted in April 2008.  
The price reported represents the weighted average price of the shares sold. Shares were sold at varying prices in the range of \$10.70 -
- (3) \$10.73. The Reporting Person hereby undertakes, upon request of the Staff of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer, to provide full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.  
The price reported represents the weighted average price of the shares sold. Shares were sold at varying prices in the range of \$10.70 -
- (4) \$10.71. The Reporting Person hereby undertakes, upon request of the Staff of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the issuer or a security holder of the issuer, to provide full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.
- (5) Held by the MCM Irrevocable Trust, of which the Reporting Person's spouse is trustee. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership in these securities to the extent to which such person does not have an actual pecuniary interest in these securities.
- (6) Each issued and outstanding Ordinary Share of the issuer, or Option to Purchase an Ordinary Share of the issuer, is represented by one (1) ADS.
- (7) 100% of the shares subject to this option were fully vested at 08/16/2006.

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.