

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>HESS WILLIAM H</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>116 HUNTINGTON AVENUE</u> (Street) <u>BOSTON MA 02116</u> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>AMERICAN TOWER CORP /MA/ [AMT]</u> 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>10/11/2004</u> 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>EVP, General Counsel</u> 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
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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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Class A Common Stock	10/11/2004		M		523,327	A	(1)	523,477	D	

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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Option to purchase Class A Common Stock	(1)	10/11/2004		M			523,327	07/14/2004	(1)	Class A Common Stock	523,327	\$0	0	D	

Explanation of Responses:

1. As part of a compensatory arrangement for key employees, in October 2001, American Tower Corporation (the "Company") agreed to establish an employee stock option plan for its subsidiary, ATC Mexico Holding Corp. ("ATC Mexico"), and granted the optionees the right to require the Company to repurchase shares of common stock of ATC Mexico acquired by such optionees under certain circumstances. Pursuant to these arrangements, on October 11, 2004, William H. Hess ("Hess") exercised this right, and the Company issued 523,327 shares of Class A Common Stock to Hess in exchange for 144 shares of common stock of ATC Mexico. The Company may be required to issue up to an additional 98,973 shares of Class A Common Stock to Hess if ATC Mexico satisfies certain performance criteria. These shares will not be issued, if at all, until January 2005.

Remarks:

William H. Hess
** Signature of Reporting Person

10/12/2004
Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.
* 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).
Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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 Number.