

**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**

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Vlak August M.</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>112 BRIDGE STREET</u>  (Street) <u>NAUGATUCK CT 06770</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>EASTERN CO [ EML ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>President &amp; CEO</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>05/19/2017</u>	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

**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			
Common Stock	05/19/2017		P		5,000	A	\$25.9	5,000	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				
Stock Appreciation Rights	\$19.1	03/02/2017		A		20,000		(I)	03/02/2022	Common Stock	20,000	\$0	20,000	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

1. On March 2, 2017, 20,000 stock appreciation rights ("SARs") were granted to the reporting person pursuant to the terms of The Eastern Company 2010 Executive Stock Incentive Plan and a stock appreciation rights agreement, at an exercise price of \$19.10 per SAR. These SARs shall vest and become exercisable as follows (provided the reporting person remains an employee of the issuer on each applicable vesting date, and the issuer meets certain performance thresholds prescribed in the stock appreciation rights agreement): 6,667 of the granted SARs vest on February 1, 2018; 6,667 of the granted SARs vest on February 1, 2019; and 6,666 of the granted SARs vest on February 1, 2020.

August M. Vlak05/23/2017

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person 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.

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