## FORM 4

obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| STATEMENT | OF CHANGES | IN BENEFICIAL |
|-----------|------------|---------------|

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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*  Lee Sunggyu  (Last) (First) (Middle)  4201 WOODLAND ROAD |  |  |                |       | 3. E<br>09/     | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NORTHERN TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL CORP [ NTIC ]  3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/01/2012  4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) |        |   |                    |  |                  |  |                                   | Relationship of Reporting Pe (Check all applicable)     X Director     Officer (give title below)      Individual or Joint/Group Filir |     |   |   | 10% O<br>Other (<br>below)                                      | wner<br>specify                       |
|--|--|--|----------------|-------|-----------------|--|--------|---|--------------------|--|------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|-----|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| (Street) CIRCLE  | PINES M  | ÍN .                                       | 55014          |       |                 |  |        |   |                    |  |                  |  | _ine)<br>X                        | X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting   |     |   |   |   |                                       |
| (City)   | (5   | State)                                     | (Zip)          |       |                 | Person   |        |   |                    |  |                  |  |                                   |  |     |   |   |   |                                       |
|  | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned   |  |                |       |                 |  |        |   |                    |  |                  |  |                                   |  |     |   |   |   |                                       |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Date)                                      |  |  |                |       | Execution Date, |  | Code ( | Transaction Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 2) Code (Instr. 5) |                    |  |                  | 4 and Securiti<br>Benefic  |                                   | es Fo<br>ially (D)<br>Following (I)  |     | vnership<br>n: Direct<br>r Indirect<br>nstr. 4)   | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |   |                                       |
|  |  |  |                |       |                 |  |        |   | Code               | v  | Amount           | (A) o<br>(D)   | r<br>Prio                         | Transac  |     | tion(s)   |   |   | (111341. 4)                           |
|  | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |  |                |       |                 |  |        |   |                    |  |                  |  |                                   |  |     |   |   |   |                                       |
| Derivative Conversion Date   |  | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Date Execution | Date, |                 | ransaction<br>Code (Instr.   |        | ı of E  |                    | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                  | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |                                   | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)  |     | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficial<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactio<br>(Instr. 4) | s<br>lly  | Ownershi<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4 | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|  |  |  |                |       | Code            | v  | (A)    |   | Date<br>Exercisabl |  | xpiration<br>ate | Title  | Amou<br>or<br>Numb<br>of<br>Share | er   |     |   |   |   |                                       |
| Stock<br>Option<br>(right to<br>buy)   | \$10.25  | 09/01/2012                                 |                |       | A               |  | 4,000  |   | (1)                | 0  | 8/31/2017        | Common<br>Stock  | 4,00                              | 0  | \$0 | 4,000   |   | D   |                                       |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

1. This option vests with respect to 1,333 shares on each of September 1, 2013 and September 1, 2014 and with respect to 1,334 shares on September 1, 2015.

/s/ Matthew C. Wolsfeld -Attorney-in-fact

09/04/2012

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

**OWNERSHIP** 

Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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.