## FORM 4

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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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 <sup>*</sup><br>BASSOUL SELIM A |         |           | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br>MIDDLEBY CORP [ MIDD ] | (Check                | ationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br>< all applicable) |   |  |  |
|---|---------|-----------|---|-----------------------|---|---|--|--|
|   |         | · · · · · | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br>03/12/2012        | X<br>X                | Director<br>Officer (give title<br>below)<br>CEO, Chairman      | 10% Owner<br>Other (specify<br>below)<br>1, President |  |  |
| 1400 TOASTMASTER DRIVE<br>(Street)<br>ELGIN IL 60120                    |         |           | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)              | 6. Indi<br>Line)<br>X | ,   |   |  |  |
| (City)  | (State) | (Zip)     | rative Securities Acquired Disposed of or Benef                       |                       | Person  |   |  |  |

## Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | ecution Date, Transaction |   |        |               |          | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|---|--------|---------------|----------|--|--|---|
|                                 |  |   | Code                      | v | Amount | (A) or<br>(D) | Price    | Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)                   | (1150.4)   | (1150. 4)   |
| Common Stock                    | 03/12/2012                                 | 03/15/2012  | <b>S</b> <sup>(1)</sup>   |   | 27,143 | D             | \$101.25 | 656,201  | D  |   |

#### Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned lo a pute calle war ontiono a a muantible a a auritia a

|          |  |            |  | (e.g., p  | uts, cai                         | is, | warra  | ants,  | options, d                                  | convertib          | le sec                                | urities)                                    |  |  |   |  |
|----------|--|------------|--|---|----------------------------------|-----|--|--|---|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|---|--|
| De<br>Se | Title of<br>erivative<br>ecurity<br>1str. 3) | Conversion | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transact<br>Code (In<br>8) |     | 5. Nu<br>of<br>Deriv<br>Secu<br>(A) of<br>Dispo<br>of (D<br>(Instr<br>and \$ | vative<br>rities<br>ired<br>r<br>osed<br>)<br>. 3, 4 | 6. Date Exer<br>Expiration D<br>(Month/Day/ | ate                | Amour<br>Securit<br>Underl<br>Derivat | nt of<br>ties<br>ying<br>tive<br>ty (Instr. | 8. Price<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4) | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr.<br>4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|          |  |            |  |   | Code                             | v   | (A)  | (D)  | Date<br>Exercisable                         | Expiration<br>Date |                                       | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares      |  |  |   |  |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Shares sold pursuant to existing 10b5-1 plan.

### Martin M. Lindsay POA 03/15/2012

\*\* 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.

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.