Abate Thomas M Form 3 January 10, 2006

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

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *

Abate Thomas M

(Last)

(First)

(Middle)

2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Statement

(Month/Day/Year)

01/01/2006

EDWARDS LIFESCIENCES CORP [EW]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(give title below) (specify below)

CVP, CFO and Treasurer

5. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

C/O EDWARDS LIFESCIENCES, ONE

EDWARDS WAY

(Street)

Director _X__ Officer

10% Owner Other

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person

Form filed by More than One

Reporting Person

IRVINE. CAÂ 92614

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security

(Instr. 4)

2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

(Instr. 4)

3. Ownership 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership

Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (Instr. 5)

(I) (Instr. 5)

Common Stock

3,472

Â D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially

owned directly or indirectly.

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

2. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

4. 5. Ownership Conversion or Exercise Form of Price of Derivative

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial

Ownership

(Instr. 5)

Derivative Security:

1

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Security	Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Employee Stock Option (Right to Acquire)	02/08/2003(1)	02/08/2011	Common Stock	12,000	\$ 18.5	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Acquire)	04/03/2003(2)	04/03/2011	Common Stock	891	\$ 18.4	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Acquire)	04/04/2004(3)	04/03/2012	Common Stock	666	\$ 26.94	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Acquire)	05/08/2003(4)	05/07/2012	Common Stock	25,000	\$ 26.01	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Acquire)	04/04/2004(5)	04/03/2013	Common Stock	913	\$ 27.62	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Acquire)	05/14/2004(6)	05/13/2010	Common Stock	50,000	\$ 30.43	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Acquire)	04/03/2005(7)	04/02/2011	Common Stock	920	\$ 32.15	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Acquire)	11/04/2005(8)	11/03/2011	Common Stock	15,000	\$ 34.71	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Acquire)	05/12/2006(9)	05/11/2012	Common Stock	23,100	\$ 45.9	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
. 0	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Abate Thomas M						
C/O EDWARDS LIFESCIENCES	â	â	CVP, CFO and Treasurer	Â		
ONE EDWARDS WAY	A	A	A CVF, CFO and Treasurer	A		
IRVINE, CA 92614						

Signatures

/s/ Jay P. Wertheim,
Attorney-in-fact

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) This option was granted on Febuary 8, 2001 under the Edwards Lifesciences Corporation Long-Term Stock Incentive Compensation Program and becomes exercisable as to 30% after two years from grant date and 100% after three years from grant date.
- (2) This option was granted on April 3, 2001 under the Edwards Lifesciences Corporation Long-Term Stock Incentive Compensation Program and becomes exercisable as to 30% after two years from grant date and 100% after three years from grant date.

Reporting Owners 2

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- (3) This option was granted on April 4, 2002 under the Edwards Lifesciences Corporation Long-Term Stock Incentive Compensation Program and becomes exercisable as to 30% after two years from grant date and 100% after three years from grant date.
- (4) This option was granted on May 8, 2002 under the Edwards Lifesciences Corporation Long-Term Stock Incentive Compensation Program and becomes exercisable commencing one year after the grant date in three equal annual installments.
- (5) This option was granted on April 4, 2003 under the Edwards Lifesciences Corporation Long-Term Stock Incentive Compensation Program and becomes exercisable commencing one year after the grant date in three equal annual installments.
- (6) This option was granted on May 14, 2003 under the Edwards Lifesciences Corporation Long-Term Stock Incentive Compensation Program and becomes exercisable commencing one year after the grant date in four equal annual installments.
- (7) This option was granted on April 3, 2004 under the Edwards Lifesciences Corporation Long-Term Stock Incentive Compensation Program and becomes exercisable commencing one year after the grant date in three equal annual installments.
- (8) This option was granted on November 4, 2004 under the Edwards Lifesciences Corporation Long-Term Stock Incentive Compensation Program and becomes exercisable commencing one year after the grant date in four equal annual installments.
- (9) This option was granted on May 12, 2005 under the Edwards Lifesciences Corporation Long-Term Stock Incentive Compensation Program and becomes exercisable commencing one year after the grant date in four equal annual installments.

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.