## FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

|   | OMB APPROVAL             |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|   | OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | Estimated average burden |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | hours per response.      | 0.5       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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*  ALEXANDER STEPHEN B  |   |        |      |       |  | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CIENA CORP [ CIEN ] |                                |  |                  |   |            |   |                        | Check  | all app   | olicable)                               |   | o Issuer<br>6 Owner<br>er (specify |
|--|---|--------|------|-------|--|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------|---|------------|---|------------------------|--|---|---|---|------------------------------------|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O CIENA CORPORATION  |   |        |      |       |  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/15/2010     |                                |  |                  |   |            |   |                        | X  | belov   | elow) below<br>VP Chief Technology Off  |   | ow)                                |
| 1201 WINTERSON ROAD  (Street)  LINTHICUM, MD 21090   |   |        |      | 4. If | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                               |   |                                |  |                  |   |            | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |                        |  |   |   |   |                                    |
| (City)   | (St   | ate) ( | Zip) |       |  |   |                                |  |                  |   |            |   |                        |  | Peis  | SOIT                                    |   |                                    |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned   |   |        |      |       |  |   |                                |  |                  |   |            |   |                        |  |   |   |   |                                    |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Ye   |   |        |      |       | .  | Execution Date,   |                                | ´  |                  |   |            | Acquired (A) or<br>(D) (Instr. 3, 4 and   |                        | d 5) Secu<br>Bene<br>Owne  |   | ficially<br>d Following                 | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | of Indirect                        |
|  |   |        |      |       |  |   |                                |  | Code             | v   | Amount     | (A) or<br>(D)   | Price                  |  | Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)                    |   |   | (Instr. 4)                         |
| Common Stock 03/15/201   |   |        |      |       |  | 10  |                                |  | S <sup>(1)</sup> |   | 5,000      | D   | \$15.83                | 58 <sup>(2)</sup>  | 32  | .7,679 <sup>(3)</sup>                   | D   |                                    |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |   |        |      |       |  |   |                                |  |                  |   |            |   |                        |  |   |   |   |                                    |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)  | ative Conversion Date Execution Date, ity or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any |        |      |       | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |   | ative<br>rities<br>ired<br>sed | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) |                  | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr. :<br>and 4) |            | 1   |                        | 9. Number o<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction<br>(Instr. 4) | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>t (Instr. 4) |   |                                    |
|  |   |        |      |       | Code   | v   | (A)                            | (D)  | Date             | cisable   | Expiration | Title   | Number<br>of<br>Shares |  |   |   |   |                                    |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Sales were effected pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 trading plan dated 12/20/06, as amended.
- 2. Reflects the weighted average sales price with transactions in a range of sales prices from \$15.77 to \$15.91. Upon request by the SEC, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate sales price will be provided.
- 3. Shares reported include unvested Restricted Stock Units (RSUs).

By: Erik J. Lichter For: Stephen B. Alexander

03/15/2010

\*\* 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.