

22nd Century Group, Inc.  
Form 4  
March 08, 2016

**FORM 4**

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

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 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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31,  
2005  
Estimated average  
burden hours per  
response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**RUSHTON PAUL**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**C/O 22ND CENTURY GROUP,  
INC., 9530 MAIN STREET**

(Street)

**CLARENCE, NY 14031**

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
**22nd Century Group, Inc. [XXII]**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
**03/04/2016**

4. If Amendment, Date Original  
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)

VP of Plant Biotechnology

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting  
Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities<br>Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                       |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V                                                                          | Amount                                                                                                             | (D)                                                                  | Price                                                             |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of  
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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**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 | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any | 4. Transaction<br>Code | 5. Number of<br>Derivative<br>Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount<br>Underlying Security<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|

| (Instr. 3)                    | Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired (A)<br>or Disposed of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) |        |     |                     |                    |                 |                            |  |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|--|
|                               |                                    |                  | Code       | V                                                                | (A)    | (D) | Date<br>Exercisable | Expiration<br>Date | Title           | Amount<br>Number<br>Shares |  |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option | \$ 0.95                            | 03/04/2016       | A          |                                                                  | 79,787 |     | <u>(1)</u>          | 03/04/2026         | Common<br>Stock | 79,787                     |  |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option | \$ 0.8417                          |                  |            |                                                                  |        |     | <u>(2)</u>          | 10/07/2025         | Common<br>Stock | 100,000                    |  |

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                                         | Relationships |           |                           |       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------------------|-------|
|                                                                                        | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                   | Other |
| RUSHTON PAUL<br>C/O 22ND CENTURY GROUP, INC.<br>9530 MAIN STREET<br>CLARENCE, NY 14031 |               |           | VP of Plant Biotechnology |       |

John J. Wolfel, Attorney-in-Fact for Paul Rushton

03/08/2016

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

Date

\* 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).

(1) Stock option grant which vests one-third on each of March 4, 2017, March 4, 2018 and March 4, 2019.

(2) Options vest on November 1, 2016 provided that Dr. Rushton remains employed by the Company through that time.

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.