

Howley Michael G
 Form 4
 May 31, 2011

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 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 *
 Howley Michael G

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 C/O ABIOMED, INC., 22 CHERRY HILL DRIVE
 (Street)

DANVERS, MA 01923

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 ABIOMED INC [ABMD]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 05/26/2011

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
 VP, Global Sales & Marketing

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
 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 Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock, \$.01 par value | 05/26/2011 | | A | (A) or (D) 10,000 (4) | \$ 0 62,500 (5) | D | |

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

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

Explanation of Responses:

* 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) Grant to reporting person of option to buy the number of shares of common stock set forth on Table II, Column 7, under the Abiomed, Inc. 2008 Stock Incentive Plan.

(2) These options become exercisable in annual 25% increments, commencing on the date shown forth in Table II, Column 6.

(3) These options became exercisable in full on March 31, 2010.

Represents the grant of a performance share award for restricted stock units pursuant to which one third of the shares will be issued to the reporting person on each of May 26, 2012, May 26, 2013 and May 26, 2014, so long as he continues to be employed by the issuer on the vesting dates. In addition, an additional performance share award of up to 17,000 restricted stock units was granted to the reporting person on May 26, 2011 with double trigger vesting pursuant to which 2012 revenue performance will determine whether 0%, 50% or 100% of the underlying restricted stock units are eligible for vesting, at which point half of the units eligible for vesting will vest on May 26, 2013 and the other half of the units eligible for vesting will vest on May 26, 2014

(4) Includes 10,000 shares represented by a performance share award for restricted stock units pursuant to which one third of the shares will be issued to the reporting person on each of May 26, 2012, May 26, 2013 and May 26, 2014, so long as he continues to be employed by the issuer on the vesting dates.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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