TCW GROUP INC Form SC 13G/A February 13, 2006

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549	OMB APPROVAL
	OMB Number: 3235-0145
	Expires: February 28, 2006
SCHEDULE 13G	Estimated average burden hours per response11
UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT	T OF 1934
MKS Instruments, Inc.	
(Name of Issuer)	
Common Stock	
(Title of Class of Securities)	
55306N104	
(CUSIP Number)	
12/31/2005	
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of	this Statement)
Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursu is filed:	ant to which this Schedule
/X/ Rule 13d-1(b)	
/ / Rule 13d-1(c)	
/ / Rule 13d-1(d)	
* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled of initial filing on this form with respect to the su and for any subsequent amendment containing inform disclosures provided in a prior cover page.	abject class of securities,
The information required in the remainder of this deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 Act of 1934 or otherwise subject to the liabilitie Act but shall be subject to all other provisions on NOTES).	B of the Securities Exchange es of that section of the
CUSIP No. 55306N104	
1. Names of Reporting Persons	

I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only). The TCW Group, Inc., on behalf of the TCW Business Unit ______ 2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions) (a) / / (b) /X/ ______ 3. SEC Use Only ______ 4. Citizenship or Place of Organization Nevada corporation Number of Shares 5. Sole Voting Power Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person -0-With 6. Shared Voting Power 1,232,819 _____ 7. Sole Dispositive Power _____ 8. Shared Dispositive Power 1,374,239 ______ 9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person 1,374,239 10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions) / / 11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9) 2.5% (see response to Item 4) ______ 12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions) HC/CO ._____ Item 1(a). Name of Issuer: MKS Instruments, Inc. Item 1(b). Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

90 Industrial Way

Wilmington, MA 01887

- Item 2(a). Name of Persons Filing:
- Item 2(b). Address of Principal Business Office, or if None, Residence:
- Item 2(c). Citizenship:

The TCW Group, Inc., on behalf of the TCW Business Unit 865 South Figueroa Street Los Angeles, CA 90017 (Nevada Corporation)

Item 2(d). Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock

Item 2(e). CUSIP Number:

55306N104

- Item 3. If This Statement Is Filed Pursuant to Sections 240.13d-1(b), or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), Check Whether the Person Filing is a:
 - (a) / Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 780).
 - (b) / Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).
 - (c) / Insurance company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).
 - (d) // Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8).
 - (e) / / An investment adviser in accordance with Section 240.13d-1 (b) (1) (ii) (E).
 - (f) / / An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with Section 240.13d-1 (b) (1) (ii) (F).
 - (g) /X/ A parent holding company or control person in accordance with Section 240.13d-1 (b) (1) (ii) (G).

(SEE Item 7)

The TCW Group, Inc., on behalf of the TCW Business Unit

- (h) / A savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);
- (i) / A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3);
- (j) / Group, in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

If this statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(c), check this box. / / $\,$

Item 4. Ownership**

The TCW Group, Inc., on behalf of the Business Unit ***

- (a) Amount beneficially owned: 1,374,239
- (b) Percent of class: 2.5%
- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
 - (i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote: none.
 - (ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 1,232,819
 - (iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: none.

- (iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 1,374,239
- ** The filing of this Schedule 13G shall not be construed as an admission that the reporting person or any of its affiliates is, for the purposes of Section 13(d) or 13(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the beneficial owner of any securities covered by this Schedule 13G. In addition, the filing of this Schedule 13G shall not be construed as an admission that the reporting person or any of its affiliates is the beneficial owner of any securities covered by this Schedule 13G for any other purposes than Section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
- *** See Exhibit A
- Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following /X/.

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

Not Applicable.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company.

SEE Exhibit A.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

Not applicable. SEE Exhibit A.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not applicable.

Item 10. Certification.

Because this statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b), the following certification is included:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated this 9th day of February, 2006.

The TCW Group, Inc., on behalf of the TCW Business Unit

By: /s/ Linda D. Barker

Linda D. Barker Authorized Signatory

EXHIBIT A

RELEVANT SUBSIDIARIES OF PARENT HOLDING COMPANY

PART A: TCW ENTITIES

PARENT HOLDING COMPANY:

The TCW Group, Inc.

RELEVANT SUBSIDIARIES THAT ARE PERSONS DESCRIBED IN RULE 13d-1(b):

- (i) Trust Company of the West, a California corporation and a bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
- (ii) TCW Asset Management Company, a California corporation and an Investment Adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.
- (iii) TCW Investment Management Company, a California corporation and an Investment Adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

This Schedule 13G is being filed by the TCW Group, Inc., a Nevada corporation ("TCW"), on behalf of itself and its direct and indirect subsidiaries, which collectively constitute The TCW Group, Inc. business unit (the "TCW Business Unit" or the "Reporting Person"). The TCW Business Unit is primarily engaged in the provision of investment management services.

As of July 6, 2001, the ultimate parent company of TCW is Societe Generale, S.A., a corporation formed under the laws of France ("SG"). The principal business of SG is acting as a holding company for a global financial services group, which includes certain distinct specialized business units that are independently operated, including the TCW Business Unit.

SG, for purpose of the federal securities laws, may be deemed ultimately to control TCW and the TCW Business Unit. SG, its executive officers and directors, and its direct and indirect subsidiaries (including all business units except the TCW Business Unit), may beneficially own shares of the securities of the issuer to which this schedule relates (the "Shares") and such shares are not reported in this statement. In accordance with Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") Release No. 34-39538 (January 12, 1998), and due to the separate management and independent operation of its business units, SG disclaims beneficial ownership of Shares beneficially owned by the Reporting Person. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of Shares beneficially owned by SG and any of SG's other business units.