

Passin Gilbert  
Form 4  
January 12, 2011

**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  
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
Passin Gilbert

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3500 DEER CREEK ROAD

(Street)

PALO ALTO, CA 94304

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol

TESLA MOTORS INC [TSLA]

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

01/10/2011

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 \_\_\_\_ Other (specify  
below) below)

VP- Manufacturing

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<br>of Derivative<br>Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount<br>Underlying Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Edgar Filing: Passin Gilbert - Form 4

| (Instr. 3)                                      | Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) |       |     |                     |                    |                 |                                        |  |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|--|
|                                                 |                                    |                  | Code       | V                                                                   | (A)   | (D) | Date<br>Exercisable | Expiration<br>Date | Title           | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |  |
| Incentive<br>Stock Option<br>(right to buy)     | \$ 28.45                           | 01/10/2011       | A          |                                                                     | 209   |     | <u>(1)</u>          | 01/10/2021         | Common<br>Stock | 209                                    |  |
| Non-Qualified<br>Stock Option<br>(right to buy) | \$ 28.45                           | 01/10/2011       | A          |                                                                     | 9,791 |     | <u>(1)</u>          | 01/10/2021         | Common<br>Stock | 9,791                                  |  |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                | Relationships |           |                   |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
|                                                               | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer           | Other |
| Passin Gilbert<br>3500 DEER CREEK ROAD<br>PALO ALTO, CA 94304 |               |           | VP- Manufacturing |       |

## Signatures

Gilbert Passin                      01/11/2011

                     \*\*Signature of                      Date  
Reporting Person

## 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) 1/48th of the shares subject to the option will vest monthly over a period of four years, beginning on date of grant.

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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