FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | | | |
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OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden 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

| | or Section 30(n) of the investment Company Act of 1940 | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| . Name and Address of Reporting Person* MCKENNEY MICHAEL J | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol KADANT INC [KAI] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner V Officer (give title Other (specify | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) KADANT INC. ONE TECHNOLOGY PARK DRIVE | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/10/2018 | EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & CFO | | | |
| Street) WESTFORD MA 01886 | 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) (State) (Zip) | | | | | |
| Table I - Non-Deri | vative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Benef | icially Owned | | | |

| 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 Disposed Of | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | (IIISU. 4) | |
| Common Stock | 03/10/2018 | | M | | 809 | A | (1) | 14,531.009 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 03/10/2018 | | F | | 239 | D | \$104.35 | 14,292.009 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 03/10/2018 | | M | | 206 | A | (2) | 14,498.009 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 03/10/2018 | | F | | 61 | D | \$104.35 | 14,437.009 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 03/10/2018 | | M | | 1,201 | A | (3) | 15,638.009 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 03/10/2018 | | F | | 354 | D | \$104.35 | 15,284.009 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 03/10/2018 | | M | | 308 | A | (4) | 15,592.009 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 03/10/2018 | | F | | 91 | D | \$104.35 | 15,501.009 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 03/10/2018 | | M | | 1,365 | A | (5) | 16,866.009 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 03/10/2018 | | F | | 402 | D | \$104.35 | 16,464.009 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 03/10/2018 | | M | | 228 | A | (6) | 16,692.009 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 03/10/2018 | | F | | 68 | D | \$104.35 | 16,624.009 | D | | |

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transa Code (8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) ((Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | ate Amount of | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|---|-------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |
| Restricted Stock Unit | \$0.0 | 03/10/2018 | | M | | | 809 | (1) | 03/10/2018 | Common Stock | 809 | \$0 | 0 | D | |
| Restricted Stock Unit | \$0.0 | 03/10/2018 | | M | | | 206 | (2) | 03/10/2018 | Common Stock | 206 | \$0 | 0 | D | |
| Restricted Stock Unit | \$0.0 | 03/10/2018 | | М | | | 1,201 | (3) | 03/31/2019 | Common Stock | 1,201 | \$0 | 1,201 | D | |
| Restricted Stock Unit | \$0.0 | 03/10/2018 | | М | | | 308 | (4) | 03/31/2019 | Common Stock | 308 | \$0 | 308 | D | |
| Restricted Stock Unit | \$0.0 | 03/10/2018 | | М | | | 1,365 | (5) | 03/31/2020 | Common Stock | 1,365 | \$0 | 2,730 | D | |
| Restricted Stock Unit | \$0.0 | 03/10/2018 | | М | | | 228 | (6) | 03/31/2020 | Common Stock | 228 | \$0 | 455 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

^{1.} The shares represent the partial settlement under a performance-based RSU award granted March 9, 2015. One-third of the RSU vested and became distributable on March 10, 2018 and was converted to common stock on a one-for-one basis on the vesting date.

- 2. The shares represent the partial settlement under a time-based RSU award granted March 9, 2015. One-third of the RSU vested and became distributable on March 10, 2018 and was converted to common stock on a one-for-one basis on the vesting date.
- 3. The shares represent the partial settlement under a performance-based RSU award granted March 8, 2016. One-third of the RSU vested and became distributable on March 10, 2018 and was converted to common stock on a one-for-one basis on the vesting date.
- 4. The shares represent the partial settlement under a time-based RSU award granted March 8, 2016. One-third of the RSU vested and became distributable on March 10, 2018 and was converted to common stock on a one-for-one basis on the vesting date.
- 5. The shares represent the partial settlement under a performance-based RSU award granted March 8, 2017. One-third of the RSU vested and became distributable on March 10, 2018 and was converted to common stock on a one-for-one basis on the vesting date.
- 6. The shares represent the partial settlement under a time-based RSU award granted March 8, 2017. One-third of the RSU vested and became distributable on March 10, 2018 and was converted to common stock on a one-for-one basis on the vesting date.

Remarks:

/s/ Sandra L. Lambert, by power of attorney 03/13/2018

** 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.

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