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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 |
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| Instruction 1(b). |
| |

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287

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|------------------------|-----|
| hours per response: | 0.5 |
| | |

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* JONES EDWARD III | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol XCel Brands, Inc. [XELB] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | | |
|--|---------|-------|--|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| | | | | X | Director | 10% Owner | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O XCEL BRANDS, INC. 475 10TH AVENUE, 4TH FLOOR | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 06/01/2012 | | Officer (give title below) | Other (specify below) | | | |
| | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | | |
| (Street) | | | | X | Form filed by One Repor | rting Person | | | |
| NEW YORK | NY | 10018 | | | Form filed by More than Person | One Reporting | | | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | | | | | | | |

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) | Transaction Code (Instr. | | | | | Securities Beneficially | 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) | | (1151114) |
| Common Stock | 06/01/2012 | | Α | | 27,667(1) | Α | \$ <mark>0</mark> | 27,667 | 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) | | of Deriv Secu Acqu (A) or Dispo of (D) | posed D) str. 3, 4 | | Amour Securi Under Deriva | 7. Title and 8. Price of Amount of Derivative Securities Security Underlying (Instr. 5) Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Owned | Direct (D) | Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|--|------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. Represents shares of restricted Common Stock awarded pursuant to a restricted stock award agreement to Mr. Jones, the vesting date of which is December 1, 2012, provided that Mr. Jones may extend the vesting date by six-month increments at his sole discretion.

| <u>/</u> | s/ Edv | vard (| Jones, | III | |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|-----|---|
| | | | < - | | - |

** Signature of Reporting Person

06/01/2012

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.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.