FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

|                                              | OMB APPRO                | IVAL      |  |  |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|
| STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP | OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |  |  |
|                                              | Estimated average burden |           |  |  |

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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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>D LOREN ROBERT W</u> |                                                                       |                                            |                                                    |                                                             |              | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol XCel Brands, Inc. [ XELB ] |              |                                                            |                                        |      |                  |                                                                                        |                                    |                                                                                                                                           | elationship o<br>ck all applica<br>Director         | able)                                                                                                | Perso          | . ,                                                                      |                                                                    |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|                                                                  | EL BRAND                                                              | irst)<br>OS, INC.,<br>E, 4TH FLOOR         | (Middle)                                           |                                                             |              | Date (3/31/2                                                           | action (Mo   | nth/D                                                      | ay/Year)                               |      |                  | X                                                                                      | below)                             | give title                                                                                                                                | Chai                                                | Other (s<br>below)<br>rman                                                                           | specify        |                                                                          |                                                                    |  |
| (Street)  NEW YO  (City)                                         | DRK N                                                                 |                                            | 10018<br>(Zip)                                     |                                                             | 4.           | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)               |              |                                                            |                                        |      |                  |                                                                                        | Line)                              | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable le)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |                                                     |                                                                                                      |                |                                                                          |                                                                    |  |
|                                                                  |                                                                       | Ta                                         | ble I - Noi                                        | n-Deriv                                                     | vativ        | ve Se                                                                  | ecurities    | s Ac                                                       | quired,                                | Dis  | osed o           | f, or                                                                                  | Bene                               | eficially                                                                                                                                 | Owned                                               |                                                                                                      |                |                                                                          |                                                                    |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)                                  |                                                                       | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                                                    | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) |              | Code (Instr.                                                           |              | 4. Securities Acquired (A) of Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 |                                        |      |                  | Beneficia<br>Owned Fo                                                                  | rities<br>ficially<br>ed Following |                                                                                                                                           | : Direct<br>Indirect<br>str. 4)                     | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership                                                  |                |                                                                          |                                                                    |  |
|                                                                  |                                                                       |                                            |                                                    |                                                             |              |                                                                        |              |                                                            | Code                                   | v    | Amount           | {                                                                                      | A) or<br>D)                        | Price                                                                                                                                     | Reported<br>Transacti<br>(Instr. 3 a                | on(s)                                                                                                |                |                                                                          | (Instr. 4)                                                         |  |
| Common                                                           | Stock                                                                 |                                            |                                                    | 03/31                                                       | 1/20         | 16                                                                     |              |                                                            | A                                      |      | 110,52           | 8(1)                                                                                   | D                                  | \$0                                                                                                                                       | 1,93                                                | 1,021                                                                                                |                |                                                                          |                                                                    |  |
| Common                                                           | Stock                                                                 |                                            |                                                    | 03/31                                                       | 1/201        | 16                                                                     |              |                                                            | F <sup>(2)</sup>                       |      | 38,50            | 00                                                                                     | D                                  | \$5.8                                                                                                                                     | 1,892                                               | 2,521                                                                                                |                |                                                                          |                                                                    |  |
| Common                                                           | Stock                                                                 |                                            |                                                    |                                                             |              |                                                                        |              |                                                            |                                        |      |                  |                                                                                        |                                    |                                                                                                                                           | 526                                                 | ,283                                                                                                 |                | I See note <sup>(3)</sup>                                                |                                                                    |  |
|                                                                  |                                                                       |                                            | Table II -                                         |                                                             |              |                                                                        |              |                                                            | uired, D<br>, option                   |      |                  |                                                                                        |                                    |                                                                                                                                           | Owned                                               |                                                                                                      |                |                                                                          |                                                                    |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)              | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution D<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/ | ate, Tr                                                     | Code (Instr. |                                                                        | Derivative E |                                                            | 6. Date Exc<br>Expiration<br>(Month/Da | Date |                  | 7. Title and Amo<br>of Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Secu<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |                                    | ecurity                                                                                                                                   | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficiall<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactio | e<br>S<br>Illy | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |
|                                                                  |                                                                       |                                            |                                                    | Co                                                          | ode          | v                                                                      | (A)          | (D)                                                        | Date<br>Exercisabl                     |      | xpiration<br>ate | Title                                                                                  | 0                                  | mount<br>or<br>lumber<br>of Shares                                                                                                        |                                                     | (Instr. 4)                                                                                           | ion(a)         |                                                                          |                                                                    |  |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option                                      | \$5.8                                                                 | 03/31/2016                                 |                                                    |                                                             | A            |                                                                        | 884,220      |                                                            | (4)                                    | 0    | 3/31/2021        | Comm                                                                                   |                                    | 884,220                                                                                                                                   | \$0                                                 | 884,22                                                                                               | 20             | D                                                                        |                                                                    |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Represents shares of restricted stock awarded pursuant to a restricted stock agreement, which vest as to one-third of the shares on each of March 31, 2017, 2018 and 2019, provided that the reporting person may extend the vesting date as to all or a portion of the shares one or more times, in his discretion.
- 2. Represents the surrender of shares to the issuer in payment of tax liability incident to the vesting of restricted stock
- $3. \ Represents \ shares \ held \ by \ the \ Irrevocable \ Trust \ of \ Rose \ Dempsey, \ of \ which \ Mr. \ D'Loren \ has sole \ voting \ and \ dispositive \ power.$
- 4. The option vests as to one-third of the shares on each of March 31, 2017, 2018 and 2019.

/s/ Robert W. D'Loren 04/01/2016

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

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.