#### GERDIN MICHAEL J

Form 4

December 21, 2011

### FORM 4

### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

**OMB APPROVAL** 

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

January 31, Expires: 2005

0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

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

**SECURITIES** 

burden hours per response...

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Estimated average

See Instruction

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*

GERDIN MICHAEL J			Symbol HEARTLAND EXPRESS INC [HTLD]						Issuer (Check all applicable)			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of (Month/I) 12/14/2	Day/Yea					_X_ Director _X_ 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)			
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date 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) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned											
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		Date, if	Code (Instr.	ransaction(A) or Disposed of (D)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
Common Stock	12/14/2011			<u>J(1)</u>	V	515,000	A	\$0	7,015,000	I	Beneficiary of Trust (2)	
Common Stock	12/14/2011			<u>J(3)</u>	V	133,000	A	\$0	2,043,372	I	Beneficiay of Trust (4)	
Common Stock	12/21/2011			<u>J(5)</u>	V	877,477	D	\$0	27,200,084	I	Trustee of GRATs	
Common Stock									14,898	I	Trustee of Trusts (6)	
Common Stock									562,669	I	Beneficiary of Trust (7)	

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Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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 control number.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans

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

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	<ol><li>Date Exerc</li></ol>	cisable and	7. Title a	and	8. Price of	
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orNumber	Expiration Date		Amount	of	Derivative	
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Underlyi	ing	Security	
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securitie	es	(Instr. 5)	
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr. 3	and 4)		
	Security				Acquired						
					(A) or						
					Disposed						
					of (D)						
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
								Δ	mount		
								or			
						Date	Expiration	Title N			
						Exercisable	Date	of			
				Code V	(A) (D)				hares		
					(1-)			- 01			

### **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
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Director 10% Owner Officer Other

GERDIN MICHAEL J

X X Chief Executive Officer

## **Signatures**

/S/Michael J. 12/14/2011 Gerdin

\*\*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) The 2009 Gerdin Children's Trust purchased 515,000 shares from the Ann S. Gerdin Revocable Trust.
- (2) The reporting person is one of the beneficiaries of the 2009 Gerdin Heartland Trust. Mr. Gerdin does not have voting and dispositive powers with respect to this trust. Lawrence D. Crouse serves as trustee. Beneficial ownership is disclaimed.
- (3) The 2005 Gerdin Children's Trust purchased 133,000 shares from the Ann S. Gerdin Revocable Trust.
- (4) The reporting person is one of the beneficiaries of the 2005 Gerdin Children's Trust. Mr. Gerdin does not have voting and dispositive powers with respect to this trust. Lawrence D. Crouse serves as trustee. Beneficial ownership is disclaimed.

**(5)** 

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An annuity distribution of 877,477 shares was made from a grantor retained annuity trust for the benefit of Ann Gerdin. These shares were distributed to the revocable trust of Mrs. Gerdin.

- (6) The reporting person is trustee over shares held by trusts created for the benefit of his children. As trustee, Mr. Gerdin has shared voting and dispositive powers with respect to each trust. Beneficial ownership is disclaimed.
- (7) The reporting person is one of the beneficiaries of the 2007 Gerdin Heartland Trust. Mr. Gerdin does not have voting and dispositive powers with respect to this trust. Lawrence D. Crouse serves as trustee. Beneficial ownership is disclaimed.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.