

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

| OMB APPROVAL                                 |           |
|--|-----------|
| OMB Number:                                  | 3235-0104 |
| Estimated average burden hours per response: | 0.5       |

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*<br><u>STERKENBURG ALBERT</u><br><br>(Last) (First) (Middle)<br><u>AMSELBERG 20</u><br><br>(Street)<br><u>WEISBADEN, 2M GERMANY 65191</u><br><br>(City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year)<br><u>01/01/2009</u> | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br><u>DENTSPLY INTERNATIONAL INC /DE/ [ XRAY ]</u>  |  |
|   |  | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)<br>Director _____ 10% Owner _____<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)<br><u>SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT</u> | 5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)<br><br>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br><input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) |                 | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) |                            | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|-----------------|---|----------------------------|--|--|---|
|  | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date | Title   | Amount or Number of Shares |  |  |   |
| Stock Option                               | 12/08/2009   | 12/08/2018      | Common Stock  | 12,000                     | 25.91  | D  |   |
| Stock Option                               | 12/08/2010   | 12/08/2018      | Common Stock  | 12,000                     | 25.91  | D  |   |
| Stock Option                               | 12/08/2011   | 12/08/2018      | Common Stock  | 12,000                     | 25.91  | D  |   |
| Stock Option                               | 12/12/2004   | 12/12/2011      | Common Stock  | 2,300                      | 15.58  | D  |   |
| Stock Option                               | 12/11/2005   | 12/11/2012      | Common Stock  | 20,400                     | 18.49  | D  |   |
| Stock Option                               | 12/15/2006   | 12/15/2013      | Common Stock  | 20,200                     | 22.14  | D  |   |
| Stock Option                               | 12/13/2007   | 12/13/2014      | Common Stock  | 14,262                     | 27.45  | D  |   |
| Stock Option                               | 12/13/2008   | 12/13/2015      | Common Stock  | 16,778                     | 27.74  | D  |   |
| Stock Option                               | 03/22/2009   | 03/22/2016      | Common Stock  | 13,800                     | 28.57  | D  |   |
| Stock Option                               | 12/12/2009   | 12/12/2016      | Common Stock  | 23,200                     | 31.36  | D  |   |
| Stock Option                               | 12/10/2010   | 12/10/2017      | Common Stock  | 16,900                     | 45.15  | D  |   |
| Restricted Stock Unit (RSU)                | 02/05/2010   | (1)             | Common Stock  | 3,400                      | (1)  | D  |   |
| Restricted Stock Unit (RSU)                | 02/04/2011   | (1)             | Common Stock  | 2,860                      | (1)  | D  |   |
| Additional RSUs <sup>(2)</sup>             | (1)  | (1)             | Common Stock  | 36.36                      | (1)  | D  |   |

**Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Not applicable to this transaction
- 2. Dividend on existing vested or unvested Restricted Stock Units (RSUs) awarded to participant, payable as additional units of phantom stock

**Remarks:**

Brian M. Addison, POA for Albert Sterkenburg 01/02/2009

\*\* 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 5 (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.