

FREEPORT MCMORAN COPPER & GOLD INC
 Form 4
 October 31, 2008

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
RANKIN B M JR

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
FREEPORT MCMORAN COPPER & GOLD INC [FCX]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 300 CRESCENT COURT, SUITE 875

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 10/30/2008

____ Director
 ____ Officer (give title below)
 ____ 10% Owner
 ____ Other (specify below)

(Street)
 DALLAS, TX 75201

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(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) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (D) | Price |
| Common Stock | | | | | 500,000 | I | By Rankin Interests Ltd. Partnership |
| Common Stock | 10/30/2008 | | M | | 2,500 | A | \$ 15.195 12,000 |
| Common Stock ⁽¹⁾ | 10/30/2008 | | M | | 5,000 | A | \$ 26.975 17,000 |

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

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(9-02)

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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 15.195 | 10/30/2008 | | M | 2,500 | 08/01/2003 ⁽²⁾ 08/01/2012 | Common Stock | 2,500 |
| Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 26.975 | 10/30/2008 | | M | 5,000 | 08/01/2004 ⁽³⁾ 08/01/2013 | Common Stock | 5,000 |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

RANKIN B M JR
300 CRESCENT COURT, SUITE 875
DALLAS, TX 75201

Signatures

Kelly C. Simoneaux on behalf of B M Rankin, Jr. pursuant to a power of attorney

10/31/2008

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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) Amount beneficially owned following the reported transactions includes 5,000 Common Stock Restricted Stock Units.

(2) 25% exercisable on the date indicated and 25% exercisable on each of the next three anniversaries thereof.

(3) 25% exercisable on the date indicated and 25% exercisable on each of the next three anniversaries thereof.

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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