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MARIO ERNEST Form 3 April 27, 2012

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

3235-0104

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

January 31, Expires: 2005

Estimated average burden hours per

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

response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting

Person *

 MARIO ERNEST

1172 CASTRO STREET

(First)

(Middle)

Statement

(Month/Day/Year)

04/18/2012

2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

VIVUS INC (VVUS)

(Last)

(Street)

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

5. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Check all applicable)

10% Owner Other (give title below) (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group

Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting

Person

Form filed by More than One

Reporting Person

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CAÂ 94040

(City)

(Instr. 4)

1. Title of Security

(State)

(Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

X Director

Officer

2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

(Instr. 4)

Ownership Form:

4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership

(Instr. 5)

Direct (D) or Indirect (I)

(Instr. 5)

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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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 of Derivative Security:

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

Expiration Date Exercisable Date

Title

Amount or Number of Shares

Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)

1

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

ÂΧ

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

MARIO ERNEST 1172 CASTRO STREET MOUNTAIN VIEW, CAÂ 94040

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Signatures

/s/ Julie Hollenback, by power of attorney

04/27/2012

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

No securities are beneficially owned

- * 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. 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.

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