

Coward Jerrit M  
 Form 3  
 December 22, 2008

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *		2. Date of Event Requiring Statement	3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Â Coward Jerrit M		(Month/Day/Year)	WILLBROS GROUP INC [WG]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	12/11/2008	
PLAZA 2000 BUILDING, 50TH STREET, 8TH FLOOR, APARTADO 0816-01098			4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
(Street)	(Check all applicable)			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Director	<input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)	
	(give title below) (specify below)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person	
	President Upstream Oil & Gas		<input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person	
PANAMA, R1Â				
(City)	(State)	(Zip)		

**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)
Common Stock	32,443	D	Â
Common Stock	182 <sup>(1)</sup>	I	401(k) Plan

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**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.**

**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	4. Conversion or Exercise	5. Ownership Form of	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	(Instr. 4) Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Price of Derivative Security	Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	(Instr. 5)
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	11/17/2007 <sup>(2)</sup>	11/16/2016	Common Stock	10,000	\$ 16.1	D	Â

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Coward Jerrit M PLAZA 2000 BUILDING, 50TH STREET 8TH FLOOR, APARTADO 0816-01098 PANAMA, Â R1Â	Â	Â	Â President	Upstream Oil & Gas Â

## Signatures

Dennis G. Berryhill, Attorney-in-fact for Jerrit M.  
Coward 12/22/2008

        \*\*Signature of Reporting Person

        Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* 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).
- (1) The information is based on a plan statement dated as of December 19, 2008.
- (2) This option became exercisable in increments as follows: 5,000 shares beginning November 17, 2007, and 5,000 shares beginning November 17, 2008.

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.