

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF PERSON
STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, TRUSTEE 04-1867445
OR DISCRETIONARY ADVISOR VARIOUS COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT FUNDS FOR
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS AND OTHER INDEX ACCOUNTS CABOT
2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP.*

NOT APPLICABLE A ___
B ___
3. SEC USE ONLY
4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
5. SOLE VOTING POWER
358,834 SHARES
6. SHARED VOTING POWER
0 SHARES
7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
364,734 SHARES
8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
0 SHARES
9. AGGREGATED AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
364,734 SHARES
10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN
SHARES*
NOT APPLICABLE
11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
.5%
12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*
BK

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF PERSON
STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, TRUSTEE/CO-TRUSTEE 04-1867445
VARIOUS PERSONAL TRUST ACCOUNTS
2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP.*

NOT APPLICABLE A ___
B ___
3. SEC USE ONLY
4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
5. SOLE VOTING POWER
529,102 SHARES
6. SHARED VOTING POWER
1,527,600 SHARES
7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
72,948 SHARES
8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
1,983,754 SHARES
9. AGGREGATED AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
2,056,702 SHARES
10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN
SHARES*
NOT APPLICABLE
11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
2.8%
12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*
BK

ITEM 1.

(A) NAME OF ISSUER

CABOT CORPORATION

(B) ADDRESS OF ISSUER'S PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES

75 STATE STREET
BOSTON, MA 02109

ITEM 2.

(A) NAME OF PERSON FILING

STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY (A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY
OF STATE STREET BOSTON CORPORATION)(B) ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OFFICE OR, IF NONE,
RESIDENCE

225 FRANKLIN STREET, BOSTON, MA 02110

(C) CITIZENSHIP

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

(D) TITLE CLASS OF SECURITIES

COMMON STOCK

(E) CUSIP NUMBER

127055101

ITEM 3. IF THIS STATEMENT IS FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13D-1(B), OR
13D-2(B), CHECK WHETHER THE PERSON FILING IS A:(B) BANK AS DEFINED IN SECTION 3(A)(6) OF THE ACT

ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP

(A) AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED

10,317,990.41 SHARES

(B) PERCENT OF CLASS

14%

(C) NUMBER OF SHARES AS TO WHICH SUCH PERSON HAS:

(I) SOLE POWER TO VOTE OR TO DIRECT THE VOTE
887,936 SHARES

(II) SHARED POWER TO VOTE OR TO DIRECT THE VOTE
9,424,154.41 SHARES

(III) SOLE POWER TO DISPOSE OR TO DIRECT THE DISPOSITION OF
437,682 SHARES

(IV) SHARED POWER TO DISPOSE OR TO DIRECT THE DISPOSITION OF
9,880,308.41 SHARES

ITEM 5. OWNERSHIP OF FIVE PERCENT OR LESS OF A CLASS

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON.

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 7. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUBSIDIARY WHICH ACQUIRED THE SECURITY BEING REPORTED ON BY THE PARENT HOLDING COMPANY

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 9. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF GROUP

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION

THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATION SHALL BE INCLUDED IF THE STATEMENT IS FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13D-1(B):

BY SIGNING BELOW I CERTIFY THAT, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, THE SECURITIES REFERRED TO ABOVE WERE ACQUIRED IN THE ORDINARY COURSE OF BUSINESS AND WERE NOT ACQUIRED FOR THE PURPOSE OF AND DO NOT HAVE THE EFFECT OF CHANGING OR INFLUENCING THE CONTROL OF THE ISSUER OF SUCH SECURITIES AND WERE NOT ACQUIRED IN CONNECTION WITH OR AS A PARTICIPANT IN ANY TRANSACTION HAVING SUCH PURPOSES OR EFFECT.

THIS REPORT IS NOT AN ADMISSION THAT STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY IS THE BENEFICIAL OWNER OF ANY SECURITIES COVERED BY THIS REPORT, AND STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF ALL SHARES REPORTED HEREIN PURSUANT TO RULE 13D-4.

SIGNATURE

AFTER REASONABLE INQUIRY AND TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION SET FORTH IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE, COMPLETE AND CORRECT.

10 FEBRUARY 1998

STATE STREET BOSTON CORPORATION
STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY,
TRUSTEE

/s/ Mary Sue Spain
SENIOR COMPLIANCE ADMINISTRATOR