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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of report (Date of earliest event reported) January 6, 2005**

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**MERITAGE HOMES CORPORATION**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

**Maryland**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

**1-9977**  
(Commission File  
Number)

**86-0611231**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**8501 E. Princess Drive, Suite 290, Scottsdale, Arizona**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**85255**  
(Zip Code)

**(480) 609-3330**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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ITEM 5.02 DEPARTURE OF DIRECTORS OR PRINCIPAL OFFICERS; ELECTION OF DIRECTORS; APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

- (a) Not applicable.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

(d) On January 6, 2005, the board of directors of Meritage Homes Corporation (the "Registrant") elected Gerald W. Haddock as a Class II director, to serve until the 2005 annual meeting of stockholders. In connection with his election, Meritage granted Mr. Haddock a stock option to purchase 5,000 (after the effect of the Company's 2-for-1 stock split in the form of a stock dividend that occurred on January 7, 2005) shares of common stock. A copy of the press release announcing Mr. Haddock's election is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1.

ITEM 9.01. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

- (c) Exhibits
- 99.1 Press Release dated January 11, 2005

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: January 12, 2005

MERITAGE HOMES CORPORATION

/s/ Larry W. Seay

By: Larry W. Seay

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# press release

A DYNAMIC GROWTH COMPANY IN THE HOME BUILDING SECTOR

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## MERITAGE APPOINTS GERALD W. HADDOCK AS BOARD MEMBER

**Dallas and Scottsdale, Arizona and Dallas (January 11, 2005) – Meritage Homes Corporation (NYSE: MTH)** today announced Gerald W. Haddock has been named to the Company's Board of Directors.

Meritage Co-chairman and Co-CEO John R. Landon stated, "Meritage welcomes Gerald to our Board. He is extremely well-qualified, with extensive experience in structuring and negotiating corporate and real estate transactions."

Haddock is the founder of Haddock Enterprises, L.L.C. He formerly served as President and CEO of Crescent Real Estate Equities, and during his tenure, was named by *Realty Stock Review* as the "Outstanding CEO of the Year" three years in a row. In 1998, Mr. Haddock was named "REIT Executive of the Year" by the Commercial Property News. He is currently a Director and Audit Committee Chairman of ENSCO International, Inc., a NYSE listed company. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Baylor University's Baylor Foundation and the New York University Graduate Tax Program National Board of Advisors.

"Gerald brings with him a wealth of knowledge in the real estate industry and in the operations of large publicly held companies," added Steven J. Hilton, Meritage Co-chairman and Co-CEO. "We believe the Company will benefit greatly from his experience as we continue to grow."

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Meritage Announces Appointment of Gerald W. Haddock

### About Meritage Homes Corporation

Meritage Homes Corporation is one of the nation's largest single-family homebuilders, and is traded on the NYSE, symbol: MTH. Fortune Magazine recently named Meritage to its "Fortune 1000" list of America's largest corporations and included the Company as a "top pick from 50 great investors" in its Investor's Guide 2004. Additionally, Meritage is ranked as one of Fortune's Fastest Growing Companies in America, its fourth appearance on this list in six years. The Company is included in the S&P SmallCap 600 Index and appears on Forbes' "Platinum 400" list as part of an elite group of only five companies on the list that have exceeded 50% in five-year annualized total return. In its 18-year history the Company has built approximately 35,000 homes, ranging from entry-level to semi-custom luxury. Meritage operates in fast-growing states of the Southern and Western U.S., including six of the top ten single-family housing markets in the country. For more information about the Company, please visit the Meritage web site is located at [www.meritagehomes.com](http://www.meritagehomes.com).

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