OMB Number: 3235-0145 Expires: December 31, 2005 Estimated average burden hours per response 11

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

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. )

Novatel Wireless, Inc.

EACH

|                                |   |                     | (Name of Issuer)   |  |  |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------|--|--|--|
| Common                         | Shares  | (Title              | of Class of Securities)  |  |  |
|                                |   | (                   |  |  |  |
|                                |   |                     | 66987M604<br>(CUSIP Number)  |  |  |
|                                | (Date of Event  | Which Re            | December 31, 2004<br>quires Filing of this Statement)  |  |  |
|                                | he appropriate box to de<br>e is filed:   | signate             | the rule pursuant to which this  |  |  |
| //                             | Rule 13d-1(b)<br>Rule 13d-1(c)<br>Rule 13d-1(d)                                   |                     |  |  |  |
| person's<br>securit            | s initial filing on this  | form wi<br>ent amen | l be filled out for a reporting<br>th respect to the subject class of<br>dment containing information which<br>rior cover page.                |  |  |
| deemed<br>Exchange<br>that see | to be "filed" for the pu<br>e Act of 1934 ("Act") or                              | rpose of otherwi    | er of this cover page shall not be<br>Section 18 of the Securities<br>se subject to the liabilities of<br>bject to all other provisions of the |  |  |
| contain                        |   | required            | the collection of information<br>to respond unless the form displays<br>SEC 1745 (02-02)   |  |  |
|                                |   |                     |  |  |  |
|                                |   |                     |  |  |  |
| CUSIP N                        | o. 66987M604  |                     | 13G  |  |  |
| 1                              | NAME OF REPORTING PERSO<br>IRS IDENTIFICATION NOS.                                | _                   | E PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)  |  |  |
|                                | RS Investment Managemen   | t Co. LL            | С  |  |  |
| 2                              | CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (See Instructions) (a)/ / (b)/ / |                     |  |  |  |
| 3                              | SEC USE ONLY  |                     |  |  |  |
| 4                              | CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF   | ORGANIZ             | ATION  |  |  |
|                                | Delaware  |                     |  |  |  |
|                                | NUMBER OF<br>SHARES   | 5                   | SOLE VOTING POWER  |  |  |
|                                | BENEFICIALLY<br>OWNED BY  | 6                   | SHARED VOITING POWER   |  |  |
|                                | OWNED BY  | h                   | SHARED VOLLING POWER   |  |  |

-1,662,580-

|              | REPORTING<br>PERSON<br>WITH   | 7        | SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER                  |  |  |
|--------------|---|----------|---|--|--|
|              |   | 8        | SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER<br>-1,662,580- |  |  |
| 9            | AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEF<br>-1,662,580-   | ICIALLY  | OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON          |  |  |
| 10<br>Instru | CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (See instructions) |          |   |  |  |
| 11           | PERCENT OF CLASS REPRES   | SENTED I | BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9                      |  |  |
| 12           | TYPE OF REPORTING PERSO   | ON (See  | Instructions)                           |  |  |
|              |   |          |   |  |  |
|              |   |          |   |  |  |

13G

CUSIP No. 66987M604

| 1            | NAME OF REPORTING PERSONS IRS IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY) |        |   |  |  |  |
|--------------|--|--------|---|--|--|--|
|              | RS Investment Manageme   |        |   |  |  |  |
| 2            | CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (See Instructions) (a)/ / (b)/ /  |        |   |  |  |  |
| 3            | SEC USE ONLY   |        |   |  |  |  |
| 4            | CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION   |        |   |  |  |  |
|              | California   |        |   |  |  |  |
|              | NUMBER OF<br>SHARES<br>BENEFICIALLY  | 5      | SOLE VOTING POWER<br>-0-                |  |  |  |
|              | BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH                                   |        | SHARED VOTING POWER<br>-1,660,290-      |  |  |  |
|              |  | 7      | SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER                  |  |  |  |
|              |  | 8      | SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER<br>-1,660,290- |  |  |  |
| 9            | AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON -1,660,290-           |        |   |  |  |  |
| 10<br>Instru | CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE ctions)   | AMOUNT | IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (See |  |  |  |
| <br>11       | PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 5.8%                               |        |   |  |  |  |
| 12           | TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (See Instructions) PN, IA                                 |        |   |  |  |  |
|              |  |        |   |  |  |  |

| CUSIP No. 66987M604  | 13G   |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
|  | NAME OF REPORTING PERSONS IRS IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)    |  |  |  |  |
| George R. Hecht  |   |  |  |  |  |
| (a)/ /<br>(b)/ /   |   |  |  |  |  |
| 3 SEC USE ONLY   |   |  |  |  |  |
| California   | CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  California                                      |  |  |  |  |
| NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH                      | 5 SOLE VOTING POWER -0- 6 SHARED VOTING POWER -1,662,580- 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER -0 |  |  |  |  |
| 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFI<br>-1,662,580-   | AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON -1,662,580-              |  |  |  |  |
| 10 CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (See Instructions) |   |  |  |  |  |
| 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRES 5.8%  | PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 5.8%                                  |  |  |  |  |
| HC, IN   | TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (See Instructions) HC, IN                                    |  |  |  |  |

CUSIP No. 66987M604

13G

ITEM 1.

- (a) The name of the issuer is Novatel Wireless, Inc. (the "Issuer").
- (b) The principal executive office of the Issuer is located at: 9255 Towne Centre Dr., Suite 225, San Diego, CA 92121.

statement (collectively, the "Filers") (d) This statement relates to shares of common stock of the Issuer (the "Stock"). (e) The CUSIP number of the Stock is 66987M604. CUSIP No. 66987M604 13G ITEM 3. If this statement is filed pursuant to rules 240.13d-1(b) or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a: Broker or dealer registered under section 15 of the Act (15 (a) U.S.C. 780). (b) Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c). Insurance company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c). Investment company registered under section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8). An investment adviser in accordance with 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E). \*RS Investment Management, L.P. is a registered investment adviser. An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F). A parent holding company or control person in accordance with 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G). \*RS Investment Management Co. LLC is the general partner of RS Investment Management, L.P. George R.

Hecht is a control person of RS Investment Management

A savings association as defined in section 3(b) of the

Co. LLC and RS Investment Management, L.P.

Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813).

(a-c) See Annex I for information on the persons filing this

- (i) \_\_\_ A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3).
  - (j) \_\_\_ Group, in accordance with rule 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J)

CUSIP No. 66987M604

13G

ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP

See Items 5-9 and 11 on the cover page for each Filer.

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

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following /\_\_/.

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

RS Investment Management Co. LLC is the parent company of registered investment advisers whose clients have the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the Stock. No individual client's holdings of the Stock are more than five percent of the outstanding Stock.

RS Investment Management, L.P. is a registered investment adviser and a managing member of registered investment advisers. RS Investment Management Co. LLC is the General Partner of RS Investment Management, L.P. George R. Hecht is a control person of RS Investment Management Co. LLC and RS Investment Management, L.P.

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 By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect. **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. Dated: February 14, 2005 RS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT CO. LLC By: Terry R. Otton Chief Operating Officer RS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, L.P. By: Terry R. Otton Chief Operating Officer CUSIP No. 66987M604 13G GEORGE R. HECHT

EXHIBIT A

George R. Hecht

JOINT FILING AGREEMENT

The undersigned hereby agree that they are filing this statement jointly pursuant to Rule 13d-1(f)(1). Each of them is responsible for the timely filing of the Schedule 13G and any amendments thereto, and for the completeness and accuracy of the information concerning such person contained therein; but none of them is responsible for the completeness or accuracy of the information concerning the other persons making the filing,

| accurate.  |
|--|
| Dated: February 14, 2005   |
| RS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT CO. LLC   |
| Ву:  |
| Terry R. Otton<br>Chief Operating Officer  |
| RS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT, L.P.   |
| Ву:  |
| Terry R. Otton Chief Operating Officer   |
|  |
| CUSIP No. 66987M604 13G  |
| GEORGE R. HECHT  |
| George R. Hecht  |
| Annex I  |
| The filers are:  |
| I.<br>(a) RS Investment Management Co. LLC is a Delaware Limited Liability<br>Company.<br>(b) holding company  |
| II.<br>(a) RS Investment Management, L.P. is a California Limited<br>Partnership.<br>(b) registered investment adviser   |
| <ul><li>III.</li><li>(a) George R. Hecht is a control person of RS Investment Management</li><li>Co. LLC and RS Investment Management, L.P.</li><li>(b) individual</li></ul> |
|  |

unless such person knows or has reason to believe that such information is