
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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): November 12, 2003

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

1-13395

(Commission File Number)

56-201079

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**5401 E. Independence Boulevard,
Charlotte, North Carolina**
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

28212
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (704) 566-2400

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure

On November 12, 2003, we issued a press release announcing a proposed private placement of Senior Subordinated Notes due 2013.

A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this current report on Form 8-K to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC.

By: _____ /s/ Stephen K. Coss

Stephen K. Coss
Vice President and General Counsel

Dated: November 12, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sonic Automotive Announces Proposed Private Placement

CHARLOTTE, NC (November 12, 2003)– Sonic Automotive, Inc. (NYSE: SAH) announced today that it intends to offer an additional \$75 million of its existing 8 5/8% Senior Subordinated Notes (the “Notes”) due 2013. The offering will be made by means of a private placement to qualified institutional buyers pursuant to Rule 144A, or in offshore transactions pursuant to Regulation S, promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Act”). Sonic will use the net proceeds from the offering initially to repay a portion of the indebtedness outstanding under its existing revolving credit facility but ultimately to fund previously announced acquisitions that are expected to close in early 2004.

The securities to be offered in the private placement will not be registered under the Act, or applicable state securities laws, and may not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration under the Act and applicable state securities laws or applicable exemptions from these registration requirements. This press release shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy the Notes in any state in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the Act or the securities laws of any state.

Contact: E. Lee Wyatt, Chief Financial Officer of Sonic Automotive, Inc., (704) 566-2415.
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