

<TABLE>  
<CAPTION>

<S> FORM 4 APPROVAL [ ] CHECK THIS BOX IF NO LONGER  
SUBJECT TO SECTION 16. FORM 4 3235-0287  
OR FORM 5 OBLIGATIONS MAY EXPIRE: DECEMBER 31, 2001  
CONTINUE. SEE INSTRUCTION 1(b). AVERAGE BURDEN RESPONSE.....0.5

<C> UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

<C> OMB  
-----  
OMB NUMBER  
ESTIMATED  
HOURS PER

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(PRINT OR TYPE RESPONSES)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person\* Person(s) to Issuer  
\_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Development Iuppenplatz, Mark J.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
Sonic Automotive, Inc. ("SAH")

6. Relationship of Reporting Person (Check all applicable)  
\_\_\_\_ Director  
X Officer (give title below)  
Vice President-Corporate

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
c/o Sonic Automotive, Inc.  
6415 Idlewild Rd., Suite 109

3. IRS Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (Voluntary)  
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4. Statement for Month/Year  
3/00

(Street)  
Applicable Charlotte, NC 28212

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)  
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7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Line)  
X Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip) TABLE I-- NON-DERIVATIVE SECURITIES ACQUIRED, DISPOSED OF, OR BENEFICIALLY OWNED

Nature of	2. Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	3. Trans- action Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Owner- ship Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)
			Amount	(A) or (D)	Price		
Indirect 1. Title of Beneficial Security Ownership (Instr. 3) (Instr. 4)							



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Explanation of Responses:

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. SEE 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).	/s/ Mark J. Iuppenlatz ----- ** Signature of Reporting Person	4-3-00 ----- Date
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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.