(Drint or Type De

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

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)											
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person – BELK WILLIAM I		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [sah]					5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director 10% Owner				
(Last) (First) 6100 FAIRVIEW ROAD, #640		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/25/2003						Officer (give title below) Of	her (specify belo	w)	
(Street) CHARLOTTE, NC 28210	4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)						6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable 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 Ber						red, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owr	or Beneficially Owned		
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	3. Transact Code (Instr. 8) Code		4. Securi or Dispo (Instr. 3, Amount	sed of (I))	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership	
Class A Common Stock	08/25/2003		М		• • • •	A	\$14.5	15,000	D		
Class A Common Stock	08/25/2003		S		2,000	D	\$26.58	13,000	D		
Class A Common Stock								6,000	Ι	Children	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained SEC 1474 (9-02) in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

Derivative Security (Instr. 3)Conversion or ExerciseDate (Month/Day/Year)Execution Date, if anyTransaction Codeof Derivative Derivative SecuritiesExpiration Date (Month/Day/Year)Derivative SecuritiesDerivative SecuritiesDerivative SecuritiesDerivative SecuritiesDerivative SecuritiesOwnership Securitiesof IndiaDerivative (Instr. 3)Price ofPrice ofPrice of(Instr. 8)SecuritiesSecurities(Instr. 3)Derivative SecuritiesDerivative SecuritiesDerivative SecuritiesOwnership SecuritiesOwnership Securities	(<i>e.g.</i> , puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)															
Security (Instr. 3) or Exercise Price of Derivative Security (Month/Day/Year) Code (Instr. 8) Derivative (Instr. 8) Derivative (Instr. 8) Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) Securities (Instr. 5) Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) Form of Derivative Security: Beneficially Owner Image: Security (Instr. 4) Image: Security (Instr. 4) Image: Security (Instr. 4) Image: Security (Instr. 4) Securities (Instr. 4) <td>1. Title of</td> <td>2.</td> <td>3. Transaction</td> <td>3A. Deemed</td> <td>4.</td> <td></td> <td>5. N</td> <td>umber</td> <td>6. Date Exerci</td> <td>sable and</td> <td>7. Title and</td> <td>Amount</td> <td>8. Price of</td> <td>9. Number of</td> <td>10.</td> <td>11. Nature</td>	1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction	3A. Deemed	4.		5. N	umber	6. Date Exerci	sable and	7. Title and	Amount	8. Price of	9. Number of	10.	11. Nature
(Instr. 3) Price of Derivative Security (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) (Instr. 5) Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (Instr. 4) Owner Image: Security Security Image: Security	Derivative	Conversion	Date	Execution Date, if	Transac	saction of		Expiration Date		of Underlying		Derivative	Derivative	Ownership	of Indirect	
Derivative Security Derivative Security Derivative Security Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Macquired (A) or Disposed of (D) <th< td=""><td>Security</td><td>or Exercise</td><td>(Month/Day/Year)</td><td>any</td><td>Code</td><td></td><td>Der</td><td>ivative</td><td>(Month/Day/Y</td><td>ear)</td><td>Securities</td><td></td><td>Security</td><td>Securities</td><td>Form of</td><td>Beneficial</td></th<>	Security	or Exercise	(Month/Day/Year)	any	Code		Der	ivative	(Month/Day/Y	ear)	Securities		Security	Securities	Form of	Beneficial
Security Security Image: Construction of the	(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Secu	urities			(Instr. 3 and	4)	(Instr. 5)	Beneficially	Derivative	Ownership
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$		Derivative					Acq	uired						Owned	Security:	(Instr. 4)
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c } \hline \\ \hline $		Security					· ·								Direct (D)	
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$																
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c } \hline \hline \\ $								· ·							· · ·	
Employee Stock Image: Stock <th< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>(Instr. 4)</td><td>(Instr. 4)</td><td></td></th<>														(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)	
Employee Stock Gate Stock Stock<						_	and	5)								
Employee Stock Stock Image:												Amount				
Employee Stock Stock Image: Code V V V Image: Code V V Image: Code V Image: Code V Image: Code V Image: Code Image: Code<									Data	Expiration		or				
Employee Stock Code V (A) (D) Observe Of Shares Observe										-	Title	Number				
Employee Stock Class A									Excicisable	Date		of				
Stock Class A					Code	V	(A)	(D)				Shares				
Stock Class A	Employee															
											Class A					
Option \$14.5 08/25/2003 M 2,000 10/01/1999 03/31/2009 Common 2,000 \$0 28,000 D		¢14.5	00/05/0000					2 000	10/01/1000	02/21/2000		2 000	^	20.000	D	
	-	\$14.5	08/25/2003		M			2,000	10/01/1999	03/31/2009		2,000	\$0	28,000	D	
(right to Stock	(right to										Stock					
buy)	buy)															

Reporting Owners

	Relationships						
Reporting Owner Name / Address	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
BELK WILLIAM I 6100 FAIRVIEW ROAD, #640 CHARLOTTE, NC 28210	Х						

Signatures

/s/ William I. Belk	08/26/2003
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

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.