

COSPER DAVID P
Form 4
February 12, 2009

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
COSPER DAVID P

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE,
INC., 6415 IDLEWILD ROAD,
SUITE 109

(Street)

CHARLOTTE, NC 28212

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
02/10/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

___ Director ___ 10% Owner
X Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)
Vice Chairman and CFO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
X Form filed by One Reporting Person
___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				(A) or (D)	Price				
				Code	V	Amount			
Class A Common Stock	02/10/2009		D	22,500 (1)	D	\$ 0	96,400	D	
Class A Common Stock							10,000	I	By spouse
Class A Common Stock							1,000	I	By daughter

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

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

Table with columns for Title of Derivative Security, Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security, Transaction Date, Deemed Execution Date, Transaction Code, Number of Derivative Securities Acquired/Disposed of, Date Exercisable and Expiration Date, Title and Amount of Underlying Securities, and Price of Derivative Security.

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

COSPER DAVID P
C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC.
6415 IDLEWILD ROAD, SUITE 109
CHARLOTTE, NC 28212

Vice Chairman and CFO

Signatures

/s/ David P. 02/12/2009
Cosper

**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).
(1) Represents the forfeiture of restricted stock granted pursuant to the Sonic Automotive, Inc. 2004 Stock Incentive Plan on February 28, 2008 due to not achieving the required performance criterium for fiscal 2008.

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.