FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

<i>N</i> ashington,	D.C.	20549	
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

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

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

(Last)	VAN CHA	Reporting Person* ARLES L JR  rst)  OND STREET	(Middle)		Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SONOCO PRODUCTS CO [ SON ]  3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/10/2003							(Chec	ationship of k all applica Director Officer ( below) VP-GLOE	able) give title		10% Ow Other (s below)	ner pecify		
(Street) HARTSV (City)		ate)	29550 (Zip)			Line)							Line)	Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Tran- Date				2. Trans	action	·		Code (Instr.		red (A) o	or 5. Am 4 and 5) Secur Benef			Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)			
								Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D) Pr		ce	Transaction	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)			113tl. 4)	
			Table II - D								sed of, onvertil				wned				
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Title of 2. 3. Transaction Date Execution Date, or Exercise (Month/Day/Year)			ransac ode (In	ansaction Derivative Descrities		Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) of S			7. Title and Amour of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		Derivativ Security		9. Number derivative Securities Beneficia Owned Following Reported	e s ally	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership ct (Instr. 4)		
				С	ode	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisab		Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Sha	oer		Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)			
Dividend Equivalent Rights	(1)	12/10/2003			A		14.4262		(2)		(2)	Commor Stock	14.4	262	\$23.8	68.359	91	D	
Dividend Equivalents on Restricted Stock Units	(1)	12/10/2003			A		97.9		(3)		(3)	Commor Stock	97	7.9	\$23.8	1,191	.3	D	

## Explanation of Responses:

- 1. 1-for-1
- 2. Acquired on quarterly dividend on the Sonoco Products Company excess benefit plan and are to be settled in cash upon the reporting person's retirement or other termination of service.
- 3. Acquired on quarterly dividend. The rights become exercisable proportionately with the options to which they relate.

By: George S. Hartley For: Charles L. Sullivan, Jr.

12/11/2003

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.