#### FORM 4

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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| obligations may continue. See | Check this box if no longer subject to<br>Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 | STATEM |
|-------------------------------|--|--------|
| Instruction 1(b).             |  | F      |

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <sup>*</sup><br>HUPFER CHARLES J |                         | *        | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>SONOCO PRODUCTS CO</u> [ SON ] |   | tionship of Reporting Perso<br>all applicable)<br>Director | n(s) to Issuer<br>10% Owner |  |  |
|--|-------------------------|----------|---|---|--|-----------------------------|--|--|
| (Last)<br>ONE NORTH SI   | (First)<br>ECOND STREET | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br>09/10/2003                | - X   | Officer (give title<br>below)<br>VICE PRESIDENT            | Other (specify<br>below)    |  |  |
| (Street)<br>HARTSVILLE<br>(City)   |                         |          | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                      | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable<br>Line)<br>X Form filed by One Reporting Person<br>Form filed by More than One Reporting<br>Person |  |                             |  |  |
|  |                         |          |   |   |  |                             |  |  |

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

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transa<br>Code (<br>8) | ction | 4. Securities /<br>Disposed Of ( |               |       | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Following<br>Reported | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|---------------|-------|---|---|---|
|                                 |                          |   | Code                         | v     | Amount                           | (A) or<br>(D) | Price | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)  |   | (1150.4)  |

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

|  | (eigi, puis, ouis, varians, options, convertible securites)           |  |   |                              |   |  |                                  |  |                    |  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|--|--------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)        | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transa<br>Code (<br>8) |   | 5. Number<br>Derivative<br>Securitie<br>Acquired<br>or Disposion<br>of (D) (In<br>3, 4 and 5 | re<br>es<br>I (A)<br>sed<br>str. | 6. Date Exerc<br>Expiration Da<br>(Month/Day/Y | ate                | 7. Title and<br>of Securiti<br>Underlyin<br>Derivative<br>(Instr. 3 ar | ies<br>g<br>Security                | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|  |   |  |   | Code                         | v | (A)  | (D)                              | Date<br>Exercisable                            | Expiration<br>Date | Title  | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of Shares |   | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4)   |  |  |
| Dividend<br>Equivalent<br>Rights                           | (1)   | 09/10/2003                                 |   | A                            |   | 15.1185  |                                  | (2)  | (2)                | Common<br>Stock  | 15.1185                             | \$23.06   | 214.2814   | D  |  |
| Dividend<br>Equivalents<br>on<br>Restricted<br>Stock Units | (1)   | 09/10/2003                                 |   | A                            |   | 63.3   |                                  | (3)  | (3)                | Common<br>Stock  | 63.3                                | \$23.06   | 1,515.7  | 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: Vicki B. Arthur - Power of

09/11/2003

Date

Attorney For: Charles J. Hupfer \*\* Signature of Reporting Person

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

\* 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.

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