FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPRO	OVAL					
OMB Number:	3235-0287					
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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).

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*  BROWN ROBERT J						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SONOCO PRODUCTS CO [ SON ]									tionship all appli Directo	,				
(Last) (First) (Middle) ONE NORTH SECOND STREET						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/10/2003									Officer below)	(give title		Other (s below)	specify	
(Street) HARTSVILLE SC 29550  (City) (State) (Zip)					4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									. Indiv ine) X	, ·					
(0.0)		,	le I - Non-l	Deriva	tive S	Sec	uritie	es Ac	quired, [	)isp	osed (	of, or Be	nefici	ally (	Owne					
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Date)					ction 2A. Deemed Execution Date,			3. Transac Code (In 8)	4. Secur Dispose 5)		rities Acquired (A) o ed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4		r und	5. Amou Securiti Benefici Owned I Reporte Transac (Instr. 3	es Forn ally (D) c Following d tion(s)		n: Direct r Indirect istr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		ate, Put	4. Transaction Code (Inst		5. Number of		,	cisal	onverti	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Secur (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price Derivati Security (Instr. 5			e s lly	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Co	ode V	,	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Ex Da	piration ite	Title	Amoun or Numbe of Shares							
Dividend Equivalent Rights	(1)	12/10/2003		1	A		45.1		(2)		(2)	Common Stock	45.1		\$23.8	836.27		D		

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. 1-for-1
- 2. Acquired on quarterly dividend on the Sonoco Products Company directors' deferred compensation plan and are to be settled in cash upon the reporting person's retirement.

By: George S. Hartley For:
Robert J. Brown

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.