

IUPPENLATZ MARK J  
Form 4  
February 09, 2007

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
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).

**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 \*  
IUPPENLATZ MARK J

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE,  
INC., 5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE  
BOULEVARD

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
02/07/2007

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Exec VP of Corp Development

(Street)  
CHARLOTTE, NC 28212

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 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 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				(A) or (D)	Price			
				Code	V	Amount		
Class A Common Stock	02/07/2007 <sup>(1)</sup>		M	20,000	A	\$ 16.51	68,800	D
Class A Common Stock	02/07/2007 <sup>(1)</sup>		S	20,000	D	\$ 32	48,800	D
Class A Common Stock	02/09/2007 <sup>(1)</sup>		M	10,000	A	\$ 19.23	58,800	D
Class A Common Stock	02/09/2007 <sup>(1)</sup>		M	10,000	A	\$	68,800	D

Common Stock						23.78	
Class A Common Stock	02/09/2007 <sup>(1)</sup>	S	20,000	D	\$ 33	48,800	D

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 in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.** SEC 1474 (9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Options to Purchase	\$ 16.51	02/07/2007 <sup>(1)</sup>		M	20,000	04/11/2002	10/11/2011	Class A Common Stock	20,000
Options to Purchase	\$ 19.23	02/09/2007 <sup>(1)</sup>		M	10,000	<sup>(2)</sup>	04/21/2015	Class A Common Stock	10,000
Options to Purchase	\$ 23.78	02/09/2007 <sup>(1)</sup>		M	10,000	<sup>(3)</sup>	02/19/2014	Class A Common Stock	10,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
IUPPENLATZ MARK J C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC. 5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD CHARLOTTE, NC 28212			Exec VP of Corp Development	

## Signatures

/s/ Mark J.  
Iuppenlatz

02/09/2007

\_\_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) Options exercised and shares sold pursuant to 10b5-1 trading plan.
- (2) These options vest in three equal annual installments beginning on 4/21/2006.
- (3) These options vest in three equal annual installments beginning on 2/19/2005.

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.