#### SONOCO PRODUCTS CO

Form 4

December 12, 2008

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

**OMB APPROVAL OMB** 

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Form 5 obligations may continue.

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 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* SMITH EDWARD L

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

SONOCO PRODUCTS CO [SON]

(Check all applicable)

(Last)

(First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

10% Owner Other (specify

ONE NORTH SECOND STREET

12/10/2008

X\_ Officer (give title below)

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(Street)

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

(Instr. 8)

Applicable Line)

Director

\_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

(Instr. 4)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Person

HARTSVILLE, SC 29550

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (I)

(Instr. 4)

Reported (A) Transaction(s)

Code V Amount (D) Price

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

(Instr. 3 and 4)

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

1. Title of Derivative Security

Conversion or Exercise

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if any

5. Number of 4. Transaction Derivative Code Securities

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of 8 **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr.	8)	Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)						(
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Dividend Equivalents on Restricted Stock Units	<u>(1)</u>	12/10/2008		A		168.2		(2)	(2)	Common Stock	168.2	
Phantom Stock Units	<u>(1)</u>	12/10/2008		A		241.5		<u>(3)</u>	(3)	Common Stock	241.5	
Phantom Stock Units	<u>(1)</u>	12/10/2008		A		48.086		<u>(4)</u>	<u>(4)</u>	Common Stock	48.086	
Phantom Stock Units	<u>(1)</u>	12/10/2008		A		170.5		<u>(5)</u>	<u>(5)</u>	Common Stock	170.5	

## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SMITH EDWARD L ONE NORTH SECOND STREET HARTSVILLE, SC 29550

VP-IPD & PAPER - EUROPE

### **Signatures**

By: George S. Hartley - Power of Attorney For: Edward L. Smith

12/12/2008

\*\*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) Each share of phantom stock is the economic equivalent of one share of Sonoco Products Company common stock.
- (2) Acquired on quarterly dividend. The rights become exercisable proportionately with the options to which they relate.
- (3) Acquired on quarterly dividend on Sonoco Products Company's officers' deferred compensation plan and will be settled upon the reporting person's retirement or other termination of service.
- (4) Acquired on quarterly dividend on Sonoco Products Company's excess benefit plan and will be settled upon the reporting person's retirement or other termination of service.
- (5) Acquired on quarterly dividend on Sonoco Products Company's deferred long term incentive plan and are to be settled upon the reporting person's retirement or other termination of service.

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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