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SONOCO PRODUCTS CO Form 8-K April 16, 2003

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): April 16, 2003

SONOCO PRODUCTS COMPANY

Incorporated under the Commission File No. 0-516 I.R.S. Employer laws of South Carolina

Identification No. 57-0248420

One North Second Street

Post Office Box 160

Hartsville, South Carolina 29551-0160

Telephone: 843-383-7000

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure; Information Provided Pursuant to Item 12.

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First Quarter Earnings

Pursuant to Item $12\ \text{of}$ this form, please see Exhibit 99 for the Registrant's 2003 first quarter earnings release.

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibit 99 Registrant's 2003 First Quarter Earnings Release

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, hereunto duly authorized.

SONOCO PRODUCTS COMPANY (Registrant)

Date: April 16, 2003 By: /s/ C. J. Hupfer

C. J. Hupfer

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit 99 Registrant's 2003 First Quarter Earnings Release