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	COMOTIVE INC											
Form 4												
March 25, 20											PPROVAL	
FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHAN Washington, D.C. 20549											3235-028	
Check thi if no long subject to Section 1 Form 4 o Form 5 obligation may cont <i>See</i> Instru 1(b).	6. r Filed purs inue. Section 17(a	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								Expires: January 3 200 Estimated average burden hours per response 0		
(Print or Type F	Responses)											
SMITH O BRUTON Sym			Symbol			Ficker or T	-		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
				C AUTOMOTIVE INC [SAH] of Earliest Transaction					(Check all applicable)			
(Month				nth/Day/Year) 18/2011					_X_ Director _X_ 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give titleOther (specify below) below) Chairman and CEO			
				nendment, Date Original onth/Day/Year)					 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting 			
		(7:)							Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table	e I - Non-	-De	erivative S	ecurit	ies Acq	uired, Disposed of	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Execution any	Date, if	Code (D) Bo ear) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) O Fo (A) Tr or (L		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)					
Class A				Code	v		(D)	Price				
Common Stock	03/18/2011			А		47,000 (1)	А	\$0	146,706	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.

 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)	4. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	5. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		ate	Amou Unde Secur	le and unt of rlying ities . 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secu Bene Owno Follo Repo Trans (Instr
			Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
SMITH O BRUTON C/O SONIC AUTOMOTIVE, INC. 5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD CHARLOTTE, NC 28212	Х	Х	Chairman and CEO				
Signatures							
In I O Direction							

/s/ O. Bruton 03/25/2011 Smith

**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).

Represents shares of Class A Common Stock issuable upon conversion of restricted stock units granted by the Compensation Committee of Sonic Automotive, Inc. pursuant to the Sonic Automotive, Inc. 2004 Stock Incentive Plan. The restricted stock units may only be

(1) settled in shares of Class A Common Stock and are subject to forfeiture based on the satisfaction of performance criteria for fiscal year 2011.

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.