

STERN JAMES F  
Form 4  
February 14, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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**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 \*  
STERN JAMES F

(Last) (First) (Middle)

A. O. SMITH  
CORPORATION, 11270 WEST  
PARK PLACE

(Street)

MILWAUKEE, WI 53224

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
SMITH A O CORP [AOS]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
02/13/2012

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Exec VP, General Counsel & Sec

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				(A) or (D)	Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price

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

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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	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4. Transaction of Derivative	5. Number	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	8.
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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)				
			Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 45.97	02/13/2012	A		9,000		(1)	02/13/2022	Common Stock	9,000
Restricted Stock Units	\$ 45.97	02/13/2012	A		3,200		(2)	(2)	Common Stock	3,200

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
STERN JAMES F A. O. SMITH CORPORATION 11270 WEST PARK PLACE MILWAUKEE, WI 53224			Exec VP, General Counsel & Sec	

## Signatures

Wendy L. Grant, Attorney-in-Fact for James F. Stern  
Date: 02/14/2012

\_\_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) The employee stock options were granted on 02/13/2012 under the A. O. Smith Combined Incentive Compensation Plan, a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3. The options become exercisable in three annual installments of 1/3 of the award starting on 02/13/2013.
- (2) The restricted stock units were granted on 02/13/2012 under the A. O. Smith Combined Incentive Compensation Plan, a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3. The restricted stock units become payable in Common Stock on the vesting date of 02/13/2015.

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.