

Edgar Filing: SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC - Form SC 13G

SONIC AUTOMOTIVE INC

Form SC 13G

October 11, 2005

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

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. 1)\*

Sonic Automotive Inc  
(Name of Issuer)

Common  
(Title of Class of Securities)

83545G102  
(CUSIP Number)

Check the following box if a fee is being paid with this statement /X/.  
(A fee is not required only if the filing person: (1) has a previous statement on file reporting beneficial ownership of more than five percent of the class of securities described in Item 1; and (2) has filed no amendment subsequent thereto reporting beneficial ownership of five percent or less of such class.)  
(See Rule 13d-7).

\*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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1) NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON  
Neuberger & Berman L.P.  
13-5521910

2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP\*

(a) /\_\_\_/  
(b) /X/

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3) SEC USE ONLY

4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
New York, New York

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH:

5) SOLE VOTING POWER  
0

6) SHARED VOTING POWER  
0

7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
0

8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
0

9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  
0

10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES\*  
201,900

11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9  
0

12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON\*  
BD/IA

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Item 1. (a) Name of Issuer:

Sonic Automotive Inc

Item 1 (b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

5401 EAST INDEPENDENCE BLVD, PO BOX 18747, CHARLOTTE NC 28212

Item 2. (a) Name of Person Filing:

Neuberger & Berman L.P.

Item 2 (b) Address of Principal Business Office:

605 Third Ave., New York, NY, 10158-3698

Item 2 (c) Citizenship:

USA

Item 2 (d) Title of Class of Securities:

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- Item 2 (e) CUSIP Number:  
83545G102
- Item 3. (a) /X/ Broker or Dealer registered under Section 15 of the Act
- Item 3 (b) /X/ Investment Adviser registered under Section 203 of the  
Investment Advisers Act of 1940
- Item 4. Ownership:
- (a) Amount Beneficially Owned:  
0
- (b) Percent of Class:  
0

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- (c) Number of Shares as to which such person has:
- (I) Sole Power to vote or to direct the  
vote: 0
- (ii) Shared Power to vote or to direct the  
vote: 0
- (iii) Sole Power to dispose or to direct the disposition  
of: 0
- (iv) Shared Power to dispose or to direct the disposition  
of: 0

- Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:  
This statement is being filed to report the fact, that as of  
the date hereof, Neuberger & Berman L.P. has ceased to be the  
beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of  
securities.
- Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another:

Neuberger & Berman L.P. is deemed to be a beneficial owner for purpose of  
Rule 13(d) since it has shared power to make decisions whether to retain or  
dispose of the securities of many unrelated clients. Neuberger & Berman L.P.  
does not, however have any economic interest in the securities of those  
clients. The clients are the actual owners of the securities and have the  
sole right to receive and the power to direct the receipt of dividends from  
or proceeds from the sale of such securities.

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No other Neuberger & Berman L.P. advisory client has an interest of more than 5% of the issuer.

It should be further noted that the share calculation under item 4.(c)(IV) is derived from a total combination of the shares set forth under Item 4.(c)(I and II). The remaining balance of shares, if any, are for individual client accounts over which Neuberger & Berman L.P. has shared power to dispose.

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Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company:

N/A

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group:

N/A

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group:

N/A

Item 10. Certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purposes or effect.

Signature:

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: September 30, 2005

By: \_\_\_\_\_

C. Carl Randolph  
\_\_\_\_\_  
General Partner  
Name/Title