

COLE MICHAEL J  
Form 4  
October 23, 2008

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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 \*  
**COLE MICHAEL J**  
  
(Last) (First) (Middle)  
  
**A. O. SMITH (CHINA)  
INVESTMENT CO., LTD., NO. 49  
SOUTH ZHONGSHAN RD., 46TH  
FLOOR**

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
**10/22/2008**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
  
(Check all applicable)  
  
 Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
**Senior Vice President - Asia**

(Street)  
  
**NANJING, F4 210005**

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

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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	10/22/2008		M	(A) or (D) Code V Amount Price M 3,700 (1) A 27,767		D	

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

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

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price or Value of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
Phantom Stock	(1)	10/22/2008		M	3,700	(1) (1)	Common Stock	3,700

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
COLE MICHAEL J A. O. SMITH (CHINA) INVESTMENT CO., LTD. NO. 49 SOUTH ZHONGSHAN RD., 46TH FLOOR NANJING, F4 210005			Senior Vice President - Asia	

## Signatures

James F. Stern, Attorney-in-Fact for Michael J. Cole  
 10/23/2008  
 \*\*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).  
 3,700 shares of phantom stock were granted on October 11, 2005, under the A. O. Smith Combined Executive Incentive Compensation (1) Plan, a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3. The 3,700 shares of phantom stock vested on October 22, 2008. As a result of vesting, the Company is obligated to deliver 3,700 shares of common stock to the reporting person.

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.