FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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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)

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person' (Check all applicable) STEPAN CO [SCL] STEPAN F QUINN Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify X 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) below) below) (Last) (First) (Middle) 02/18/2004 Chairman and CEO 22 W. FRONTAGE ROAD 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Dav/Year) 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable (Street) Line) 60093 **NORTHFIELD** IL X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) 6. Ownership Form: Direct 2. Transaction 2A. Deemed 5. Amount of 7. Nature of 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) Indirect Execution Date, Securities Code (Instr. 8) (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) if any Beneficially Owned Following (Month/Day/Year) Ownership (Instr. 4) Reported (A) or (D) Transaction(s) Code ν Amount Price (Instr. 3 and 4) Stepan **T**(1) Common Stock 02/19/2004 31,050 D \$25.65 345,535 Ι Venture II Partnership By trust for Common Stock 02/18/2004 1.000 D \$25 26,423 Ī family member Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) 1. Title of Derivative 3. Transaction 3A. Deemed 5. Number of 6. Date Exercisable and Title and Amount 8. Price of 9. Number of 11. Nature Conversion Execution Date Transaction Derivative **Expiration Date** of Securities Derivative derivative Ownership of Indirect Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) (Month/Day/Year) Security (Instr. 3) or Exercise Price of if any (Month/Day/Year) Securities Beneficially Code (Instr. Securities (Month/Day/Year) Security Form: **Beneficial** (Instr. 5) Direct (D) Derivative Security or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. Owned Following (Instr. 4) Reported Transaction(s) Amount or (Instr. 4) Number of Shares Date Exercisable

Explanation of Responses:

(2)

- 1. Disposition of shares pursuant to optional redemption by certain Limited Partners of the Stepan Venture II Partnership.
- 2. Management Incentive Plan ("Plan"), (a 16b-3 plan) approved April 28, 1992, by shareholders to permit option of taking balances in cash or company stock upon termination, death or retirement pursuant to Plan provisions

08/08/1988

(D)

(A)

6.559.01

Remarks:

Management

Incentive

F. Quinn Stepan

Title

Stock

08/08/1988

02/20/2004

215.812.09

D

** Signature of Reporting Person

6.559.01

Date

(2)

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

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

02/18/2004

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Code

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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