

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Mergner Arthur W</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>22 W. FRONTAGE ROAD</u> (Street) <u>NORTHFIELD IL 60093</u> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>STEPAN CO [SCL]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) X <u>VP, Supply Chain</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>02/21/2018</u>	
	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/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 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	02/21/2018		M		6,869	A	(1)	9,832.939	D	
Common Stock	02/21/2018		A		109.718	A	\$73.07	6,276.132	I	By Esop II Trust

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)	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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$72.99	02/21/2018		A		3,447		12/31/2018 ⁽²⁾	02/20/2028	Common Stock	3,447	\$0	3,447	D	
Stock Appreciation Right	\$72.99	02/21/2018		A		10,340		12/31/2018 ⁽²⁾	02/20/2028	Common Stock	10,340	\$0	10,340	D	
Performance Shares	(3)	02/21/2018		A		2,740		(3)	(3)	Common Stock	2,740	(3)	2,740	D	
Performance Shares	(4)	02/21/2018		M			3,887	(4)	(4)	Common Stock	3,887	(1)	0	D	
Share Units	(5)	02/21/2018		A		1,278.743		(6)	(6)	Common Stock	1,278.743	\$73.07	5,879.336	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- The performance shares vested upon Stepan Company achieving certain financial targets by December 31, 2017.
- Vests ratably over three years beginning on the date shown.
- Each performance share represents a contingent right to receive 1 share of Stepan Company Stock. The performance shares vest upon Stepan Company achieving certain financial targets by December 31, 2020.
- Each performance share represents a contingent right to receive 1 share of Stepan Company Common Stock. The performance shares vest upon Stepan Company achieving certain financial targets by December 31, 2017.
- Share Units convert on a one-for-one basis into Common Stock.
- Share Units are acquired under the Management Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated Effective January 1, 2015) ("MIP"), a nonqualified deferred compensation plan which allows MIP participants to elect to defer all or a portion of their deferred compensation into accounts pursuant to MIP provisions.

/s/ Matthew M. Rice, attorney-in- 02/23/2018
fact for Arthur W. Mergner

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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).

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

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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