FORM 4

obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Washington, D.C. 20049

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL

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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*  PACHOLEC FRANK   |   |  |  |         |   | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol STEPAN CO [ SCL ] |  |     |                              |         |  |   |               |       | Check                  | all app<br>Dired         | onship of Reporting<br>all applicable)<br>Director<br>Officer (give title                        |   | Person(s) to Issuer  10% Owner  Other (specify |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|---------|---|---|--|-----|------------------------------|---------|--|---|---------------|-------|------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 22 W. FRONTAGE ROAD  |   |  |  |         | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/15/2016 |   |  |     |                              |         |  |   |               |       | X                      |                          | vice President R&D   |   |  |  |  |
| (Street) NORTHFIELD IL 60093  (City) (State) (Zip)   |   |  |  |         | 4. If   | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)      |  |     |                              |         |  |   |               |       | 6. Indiv<br>₋ine)<br>X | <i>'</i>                 |  |   |  |  |  |
| Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned   |   |  |  |         |   |   |  |     |                              |         |  |   |               |       |                        |                          |  |   |  |  |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Date)  |   |  |  |         | th/Day/Year)  |   | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year)  |     | 3.<br>Transa<br>Code (<br>8) |         | 4. Securities Acquired (A) of Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 |   |               |       | and 5) Secur<br>Benef  |                          | icially<br>d Following   | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) |  | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)  |  |
|  |   |  |  |         |   |   |  |     |                              | v       | Amount   |   | (A) or<br>(D) | Price | co Trans               |                          | action(s)<br>3 and 4)  |   |  | (iiisti. 4)  |  |
| Common Stock 03/15/2   |   |  |  |         | /2016   | 016   |  | A   |                              | 114.492 | (1)  | A   | \$53          | 3.35  | 57,387.107             |                          | D  |   |  |  |  |
| Common Stock   |   |  |  |         |   |   |  |     |                              |         |  |   |               |       | 1,919.909(2.           |                          | I  |   | By<br>ESOP II<br>Trust                         |  |  |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |   |  |  |         |   |   |  |     |                              |         |  |   |               |       |                        |                          |  |   |  |  |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)  | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deen<br>Executio<br>if any<br>(Month/D | n Date, | 4.<br>Transa<br>Code (<br>8)                                |   | of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4<br>and 5) |     | Expirati<br>(Month/          | on Da   | ear)   | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr.<br>and 4) |               | ount  |                        | vative<br>irity<br>r. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction( (Instr. 4) | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) |  | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |
|  |   |  |  |         | Code  | v   | (A)  | (D) | Date<br>Exercisa             | able    | Expiration Date  | <br>  Titl  | of<br>le Sha  | ares  |                        |                          |  |   |  |  |  |

## Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Reflects acquisition of deferred share units under the Performance Award Deferred Compensation Plan ("Plan") pursuant to a dividend equivalent feature of the Plan.
- 2. Reflects ESOP II acquisitions that have occurred since the Reporting Person's last ownership report covering ESOP II holdings.

## Remarks:

Frank Pacholec

03/16/2016

\*\* 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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