

## INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * <b>STAPLE EDMUND W</b> (Last) (First) (Middle) <b>6100 NORTH BAKER ROAD</b> (Street) <b>MILWAUKEE, WI 53209</b> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) <b>08/08/2003</b>	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>ACTUANT CORP [ATU]</b>		
		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) <b>Gardner Bender-Bus Ldr</b>		5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)
		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

### Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
Employee Stock Option <sup>(1)</sup>	08/07/2004 <sup>(1)</sup>	08/07/2012	Class A Common Stock	3,500	\$36.175	D	
Employee Stock Option <sup>(2)</sup>	01/13/2005 <sup>(2)</sup>	01/13/2013	Class A Common Stock	1,750	\$47.88	D	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
STAPLE EDMUND W 6100 NORTH BAKER ROAD MILWAUKEE, WI 53209			Gardner Bender-Bus Ldr	

## Signatures

Kathryn Moore, Attorney-in-Fact for Edmund W. Staple	08/08/2003
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).
- (1) Option granted under Actuant Corporation 2001 Stock Plan. Fifty percent of the option becomes exercisable on 8/7/2004 and the balance on 8/7/2007.
- (2) Option granted under Actuant Corporation's 2002 Stock Plan. Fifty percent of the option becomes exercisable on 1/13/2005 and the balance on 1/13/2008.

