AON CORP Form 11-K June 25, 2008

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# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549** 

# **FORM 11-K**

x Annual Report Pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007

OR

Transition Report Pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Commission File number 1-7933

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:

# **Aon Savings Plan**

B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office:

Aon Corporation 200 E. Randolph Drive Chicago, Illinois 60601

# **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Committee acting as Plan Administrator, has duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, hereunto duly authorized.
AON SAVINGS PLAN
BY THE COMMITTEE
/s/ JOHN A. RESCHKE John A. Reschke
Date:
June 25, 2008

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

# **AON SAVINGS PLAN**

Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

With Report of Independent Registered

# **Public Accounting Firm**

Employer Identification Number 36-3051915

Plan # 020

# AON SAVINGS PLAN

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

Years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
The Retirement Plan Governance and Investment Committee  Aon Savings Plan
We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the Aon Savings Plan as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.
We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. We were not engaged to perform an audit of the Plan s internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.
In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan at December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.
Our audits were performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2007, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosur under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. This supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan s management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audits of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
/s/ ERNST & YOUNG LLP
Chicago, Illinois
June 25, 2008
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Employer Plan Identification # 36-3051915 Plan # 020

# AON SAVINGS PLAN

# **Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits**

(in thousands)

	Dec 2007	ember 31	2006
Assets	2007		2000
Investments, at Fair Value:			
Aon Corporation Common Stock	\$ 326,317	\$	288,185
Brokerage Accounts-Other Common and Preferred Stocks and Mutual Funds	18,027		16,593
Investments held in Mutual Funds:			
State Street Global Advisors Short Term Investment Fund			278,265
State Street Global Advisors Government Short Term Investment Fund	282,064		
Vanguard REIT Index Fund	69,899		114,565
Vanguard Admiral Intermediate Term Treasury Fund	75,527		67,206
Vanguard Capital Opportunities Fund	98,171		90,746
T. Rowe Price Growth Stock Fund	59,425		40,738
Dodge & Cox Common Stock Fund	216,099		239,303
PIMCO Total Return Fund	73,263		58,923
Managers Special Equity Fund			53,266
Wellington Small Cap Opportunities Fund	47,841		
Wells Fargo Small Cap Value Fund	39,311		27,842
American Funds Euro-Pacific Growth Fund	186,910		143,293
Investments held in Collective Trusts:			
Ned Davis Research Asset Allocation Strategy Fund	117,667		130,381
State Street Global Advisors S&P 500 Strategy Fund	257,373		257,884
Participant Loans	22,891		24,153
Total Investments, at Fair Value	1,890,785		1,831,343
Contributions Receivable:			
Participant	2,377		2,431
Company	20,519		20,233
Total Contributions Receivable	22,896		22,664
Net Assets Available for Benefits	\$ 1,913,681	\$	1,854,007

See notes to financial statements.

Employer Plan Identification # 36-3051915 Plan # 020

# AON SAVINGS PLAN

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

# (in thousands)

	December 2007	ber 31	2006
Additions			
Net Investment Income			
Interest Income	\$ 21,910	\$	17,570
Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments	89,505		113,013
Aon Corporation Dividends	4,147		4,929
Other Dividends	64,008		50,605
Total Net Investment Income	179,570		186,117
Contributions			
Company	48,283		49,432
Participants	86,788		90,991
Rollovers	8,366		6,665
Total Contributions	143,437		147,088
Total Additions	323,007		333,205
Deductions			
Transfer to Other Plan	(54,891)		
Benefit Payments	(207,063)		(165,084)
Management and Administrative Fees	(1,379)		(1,909)
Total Deductions	(263,333)		(166,993)
Not In success in Not Assets Assets Assets for Donofits	50.674		166 212
Net Increase in Net Assets Available for Benefits	59,674		166,212
Net Assets Available for Benefits at Beginning of Year	1,854,007		1,687,795
Net Assets Available for Benefits at End of Year	\$ 1,913,681	\$	1,854,007

See notes to financial statements.

Employer Plan Identification # 36-3051915 Plan # 020

#### AON SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Years Ended December 31, 2007 and 2006

# 1. Description of Plan

#### General

The Aon Savings Plan (the Plan) was authorized by the Board of Directors of Aon Corporation (the Company or Plan Sponsor). It is a defined contribution plan with a salary deferral feature and an employee stock ownership (ESOP) feature. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). Effective January 1, 2004, the Aon Retirement Account was established as a separate account under the Aon Savings Plan. The Aon Retirement Account is intended for employees hired after January 1, 2004 who are not eligible for participation in the Aon Pension Plan.

Effective January 1, 2003, the Aon Common Stock Fund and the ESOP Allocated Fund were merged into a single fund called the Aon Common Stock ESOP Fund. Participants have the option to reinvest dividends in additional shares of Aon common stock in the Plan or receive dividends in cash. Additionally, effective January 1, 2003, participants are allowed to immediately diversify any Company matching contributions allocated to the Aon Common Stock ESOP Fund (ESOP Fund).

The Aon Warranty Group (AWG) subsidiary was sold in November, 2006. As a result of the sale, all AWG participants became 100% vested in their individual accounts and were transferred to a new plan established by their new employer in February, 2007.

The following description of the Plan provides only general information. Participants of the Plan should refer to the Summary Plan Description for a more complete description of the Plan.

#### **Eligibility and Participation**

Employees other than field sales agents or employees scheduled to work less than 20 hours per week are immediately eligible to participate. Field sales agents and employees scheduled to work less than 20 hours per week are eligible to participate after completing one year of service and attaining the age of 21. Participants must complete one year of service to be eligible for Company matching contributions.

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## 1. Description of Plan (continued)

#### Contributions

Participant Participant contributions are made by means of regular payroll deductions. Non-highly compensated participants, as defined by the Internal Revenue Code (IRC), may elect to make contributions between 1% and 25% of their compensation, as defined by the IRC, may elect to make contributions between 1% and 12% of their compensation, as defined by the Plan. Participant contributions are limited to amounts allowed by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Accordingly, the maximum participant contribution was \$15,500 in 2007 and \$15,000 in 2006. In addition to regular participant contributions, catch-up contributions of up to \$5,000 for 2007 and 2006 were allowed for any participants who were age 50 or older during the Plan year.

Effective January 1, 2007, new employees are automatically enrolled in the Plan at a default rate of 3% of compensation. Employees hired on or after July 1, 2007 are automatically enrolled at a default rate of 4% of compensation. Beginning April 2008, the automatic enrollment rate will increase 1% each April, up to the maximum of 6%, if a participant has completed six months of service by such date. Participants can change their deferral percentage or investment selections at any time after initial enrollment.

Effective January 1, 2007, the Plan began allowing participants to make Roth 401(k) contributions to the Plan. Roth contributions are made on an after-tax basis and participants would then owe no further tax on these contributions or their earnings.

Company The Company contributes an amount equal to 50% of the first 6% of a participant s compensation that a participant contributes to the Plan (75% of the first 4% of a participant s compensation for employees of Aon Human Capital Services, LLC). This contribution will be made concurrent with participant contributions. The Company may make a further discretionary contribution based on employee contributions of up to 6%. For 2007 and 2006, the contribution was \$13,243,000 and \$14,268,000, respectively. The amount of this contribution is determined by the Aon Board of Directors.

The Aon Retirement Account is funded entirely by Company contributions. No employee contributions are allowed. The Plan does not guarantee Company contributions however it is intended the Company will make an annual contribution to the account of eligible employees. The amount of the contribution may increase with length of service of the employee and other factors deemed relevant by the Board.

1.	Description of Plan (continued)	)
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## **Investment Options**

Both participant and Company contributions to the Plan will be invested in any of the various investment alternatives offered by the Plan in any whole percentages as directed by the participant. Additionally, a Self-Managed Account is offered whereby participants can invest their self-directed contributions in various stock, mutual funds and other investments.

#### **Participant Accounts**

Each participant s account is credited with the participant s contribution and allocations of a) the Company s contributions and b) Plan earnings (losses). The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant s account.

#### Vesting

Participants are fully vested in their contributions plus actual earnings of the Plan. Participants become 100% vested in the employer contributions (including amounts in the Aon Retirement Account) after five years of plan service, according to a graded vesting schedule.

Forfeitures of \$3,621,000 for 2007, and \$2,768,000 for 2006 were used to provide partial funding for Company contributions and to pay other expenses of the Plan.

#### **Benefit Payments**

Upon retirement or termination of service, a participant will receive a lump sum payment equal to his or her vested balance. The participant may elect to receive this payment directly or to be rolled into another plan or IRA. Vested amounts of the ESOP may be received in cash or Aon Common stock.

#### **Plan Termination**

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants will become 100% vested in their accounts.

## 1. Description of Plan (continued)

#### **Participant Loans**

Under the loan provision of the Plan, each participant is permitted one loan in a twelve month period and the outstanding balance of all loans made to a participant may not exceed the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of the vested portion of the participant s account, excluding the ESOP and Aon Retirement Account portion of the account. The interest rate for each loan is equal to 1% plus the prime rate as quoted in The Wall Street Journal for the last day of the month preceding the loan request. Loans are made for a period of up to five years, except for residential loans that have a fixed repayment period of up to fifteen years.

## 2. Significant Accounting Policies

## **Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

#### **Investment Valuation and Income Recognition**

Investments in mutual funds and common stock are carried at fair value, which for marketable securities is based on quotations obtained from national securities exchanges. Investments in collective trusts are carried at redemption value as determined by the applicable trust on the last day of the Plan year. Participant loans are valued at their outstanding balances, which approximate fair value.

Interest income is recorded as earned. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Realized gains or losses on investments are the difference between the proceeds received and the cost of investments sold as determined on a first-in, first-out basis. The change in the difference between fair value and the cost of investments is reported as unrealized appreciation or depreciation of investments.

#### **Administrative Expenses**

Administrative expenses of the Plan, including expenses of the Trustees, are paid from the Plan assets, except to the extent that the Company, at its discretion, may decide to pay such expenses. The Company did not pay any Plan expenses in 2007 or 2006.

Participant Loans 13

# **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

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Use of Estimates 14

# 3. Investments

State Street Bank and Trust Company is the Trustee and custodian for all Plan assets. The Trustee is a named fiduciary under ERISA. The Trustee is a party-in-interest to the plan as three investment fund options are State Street funds.

During 2007 and 2006 the Plan s investments (including investments bought, sold and held during the year) appreciated (depreciated) in fair value as follows (in thousands):

		Decem	ber 31	
		2007 Net Realized		2006
		and Unrealized		Net Realized and Unrealized
	Fair Value	Appreciation (Depreciation) in Fair Value of Investment During the Year	Fair Value	Appreciation (Depreciation) in Fair Value of Investments During the Year
Investments, at fair value:				
Aon Corporation Common Stock	\$326,317	\$90,799	\$288,185	\$(4,760)
Brokerage Accounts-Other				
Common and Preferred Stocks, Mutual Funds and				
Other Investments	18,027	789	16,593	1,214
Investments in Mutual Funds:				
State Street Global Advisors Short Term Investment				
Fund			278,265	
State Street Global Advisors Government Short Term				
Investment Fund	282,064			
Vanguard REIT Index Fund	69,899	(19,498)	114,565	24,361
Vanguard Capital Opportunities Fund	98,171	381	90,746	7,734
Wells Fargo Small Cap Value Fund	39,311	(2,786)	27,842	265
Dodge & Cox Common Stock Fund	216,099	(21,404)	239,303	23,389
PIMCO Total Return Fund	73,263	1,900	58,923	(595)
Managers Special Equity Fund			53,266	(1,956)
Wellington Small Cap Opportunities Fund	47,841	511		
T. Rowe Price Growth Stock Fund	59,425	2,505	40,738	3,690
American Euro-Pacific Growth Fund	186,910	12,058	143,293	14,631
Vanguard Admiral Intermediate Term Treasury Fund	75,527	3,545	67,206	(753)
Investments in Collective Trusts:				
Ned Davis Research Asset Allocation Strategy Fund	117,667	6,665	130,381	9,454
State Street Global Advisors S&P 500 Strategy Fund	257,373	14,040	257,884	36,339
Total	\$1,867,894	\$89,505	\$1,807,190	\$113,013

## 3. Investments (continued)

The fair value of individual investments that represent 5% or more of the Plan s assets is as follows (in thousands):

	December 31			
		2007		2006
Aon Corporation, Common Stock	\$	326,317	\$	288,185
Investments in Mutual Funds:				
State Street Global Advisors Short Term Investment Fund		*		278,625
State Street Global Advisors Government Short Term Investment Fund		282,064		
Dodge & Cox Common Stock Fund		216,099		239,303
American Euro-Pacific Growth Fund		186,910		143,293
Vanguard REIT Index Fund		*		114,565
Vanguard Capital Opportunities Fund		98,171		*
Investments in Collective Trusts:				
Ned Davis Research Asset Allocation Strategy Fund		117,667		130,381
State Street Global Advisors S&P 500 Strategy Fund		257,373		257,884

<sup>\*</sup>Below 5% threshold.

### 4. Income Tax Status

The Plan has received a determination letter from the IRS dated October 1, 2003, stating that the Plan is qualified under section 401(a) of the IRC and, therefore, the related trust is exempt from taxation. Subsequent to this issuance of the determination letter, the Plan was amended. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain its qualification. The Plan Administrative Committee believes the Plan is being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believes that the Plan, as amended, is qualified and the related trust is tax exempt.

# 5. Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of assets available for benefits.

# 6. Subsequent Events

The Combined Insurance Company of America and Sterling Life Insurance subsidiaries were sold in April, 2008. Affected participants were allowed to voluntarily rollover their balances to their new employer s plan or to an IRA account, or continue to maintain their balances within the Plan.

Employer Identification # 36-3051915 Plan # 020

# AON SAVINGS PLAN

# Schedule H, Line 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

December 31, 2007

Identity of Issuer	Number of Shares Principal Amount	,	Current Value (thousands)
Aon Common Stock ESOP Fund			
Common Stock			
Aon Corporation Common Stock, 1.00 par*	6,839,931	\$	326,196
Short Term Investment Fund			
Mutual Fund			
State Street Global Advisors Government Short Term Investment Fund*	246,220,175	\$	282,064
Total Return Fund			
Collective Trust			
Ned Davis Research Asset Allocation Strategy Fund	7,511,851	\$	117,667
Common Stock Index Fund			
Collective Trust			
State Street Global Advisors S&P 500 Strategy Fund*	909,067	\$	257,373
Real Estate Securities Fund			
Mutual Fund			
Vanguard REIT Index Fund	5,199,772	\$	69,899
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Employer Identification # 36-3051915 Plan # 020

# AON SAVINGS PLAN

# Schedule H, Line 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

December 31, 2007

(continued)

Identity of Issuer  Vanguard Capital Opportunities Fund	Number of Shares Principal Amount	Current Value (thousands)
Mutual Fund		
Vanguard Capital Opportunities Fund	1,152,505	\$ 98,171
Dodge & Cox Common Stock Fund		
Mutual Fund		
Dodge & Cox Common Stock Fund	1,432,627	\$ 216,099
PIMCO Total Return Fund		
Mutual Fund		
PIMCO Total Return Fund	6,841,639	\$ 73,263
T. Rowe Price Growth Stock Fund		
Mutual Fund		
T. Rowe Price Growth Stock Fund	1,756,200	\$ 59,425
Wellington Small Cap Opportunities Fund		
Mutual Fund		
Wellington Small Cap Opportunities Fund	2,785,006	\$ 47,841
On the first state of the state	2,730,000	
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Employer Identification # 36-3051915 Plan # 020

# AON SAVINGS PLAN

# Schedule H, Line 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

December 31, 2007

(continued)

Identity of Issuer	Number of Shares Principal Amount	Current Value (thousands)
Vanguard Admiral Intermediate Term Treasury Fund		(**************************************
Mutual Fund		
Vanguard Admiral Intermediate Term Treasury Fund	6,611,320	\$ 75,527
American Euro-Pacific Growth Fund		
Mutual Fund		
American Euro-Pacific Growth Fund	3,672,967	\$ 186,910
Wells Fargo Small Cap Value Fund		
Mutual Fund		
Wells Fargo Small Cap Value Fund	1,330,779	\$ 39,311
Other Common and Preferred Stocks and Mutual Funds (Self-Managed Funds)		
Brokerage Accounts		
Other common and preferred stocks, mutual funds and other investments		\$ 18,027
Aon Corporation Common Stock*	2,541	\$ 121
Participant Loans* (5.00% - 10.5%)		\$ 22,891
		\$ 1,890,785

<sup>\*</sup>Party in interest transaction not prohibited by ERISA.