

AVX CORP  
Form 11-K  
March 31, 2004

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UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

ANNUAL REPORT  
Pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
For The Year Ended December 31, 2003

Commission file number: 1-10431

AVX CORPORATION SERP

IRS Employer Identification Number: 33-0379007

AVX CORPORATION  
P.O. Box 867  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29578

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AVX CORPORATION SERP

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<u>23.1 Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP dated March 26, 2004</u>	

Report of Independent Auditors

To

the Participants and Administrator of  
AVX Corporation SERP:

In our opinion, the accompanying statements of financial condition with fund information and the related statements of income and changes in plan equity with fund information present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the AVX Corporation SERP

(the "Plan") at December 31, 2002 and 2003, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the years ended December 31, 2001, 2002, and 2003 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. 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 of these statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit 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.

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental schedule of investments is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. This supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan's management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Atlanta, Georgia  
March 19, 2004

AVX CORPORATION SERP  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION WITH FUND INFORMATION  
As of December 31, 2003

					Vanguard						Lord		
	AVX	Kyocera	Seligman	T Rowe	Treasury	Templeton	Vanguard	Janus	Janus	Emerg-ing	MFS	Abbett	PIMCO
	Stock	Stock	Equity	Price	Money	Foreign	500 Index	Balanced	Janus	Growth	Value	Mid Cap	Total
Total	Fund	Fund	Portfolio	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund

SETS:

Investments													
at fair value:													
Other													
investments													
Total	\$2,864,379	\$5,287	\$3,939	\$481,194	\$278,909	\$388,770	\$399,125	\$257,445	\$90,402	\$483,542	\$79,416	\$61,258	\$335,000
(29,996)													
AVX													
Corporation													
Common													
Stock													
Total	293,343	293,343	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
(4,996)													
Kyocera													
Corporation													
American													
Investment													
Company													
Total	276,241	---	276,241	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
(9,054)													
Total	3,433,963	298,630	280,180	481,194	278,909	388,770	399,125	257,445	90,402	483,542	79,416	61,258	335,000
Investments													
at fair value:													
Other													
investments													
Total	\$3,433,963	\$298,630	\$280,180	\$481,194	\$278,909	\$388,770	\$399,125	\$257,445	\$90,402	\$483,542	\$79,416	\$61,258	\$335,000

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

AVX CORPORATION SERP  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION WITH FUND INFORMATION  
As of December 31, 2002

	Total	AVX Stock Fund	Kyocera Stock Fund	Vanguard			Templeton		Janus Balanced Fund	Janus Fund	MFS Emerg-ing Growth Fund
				Seligman Equity Value Portfolio	T Rowe Price Spec-trum Fund	Treasury Money Market Fund	Foreign Equity Fund	Vanguard 500 Index Fund			
ASSETS:											
Investments											
at fair value:											
Other											
investments											
Total	\$2,192,503	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$328,315	\$494,258	\$414,239	\$287,395	\$161,869	\$48,406	\$375,753	\$82,268

(cost \$2,966,911) AVX Corporation Common Stock (cost \$236,613) Kyocera Corporation American Depository Shares (cost \$290,285)	144,546	144,546	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total investments	2,542,389	144,546	205,340	328,315	494,258	414,239	287,395	161,869	48,406	375,753	82,268	
Receivable: Employee contribution	12,688	1,368	1,150	975	1,589	777	825	1,976	1,253	1,717	1,058	
Plan equity	\$2,555,077	\$145,914	\$206,490	\$329,290	\$495,847	\$415,016	\$288,220	\$163,845	\$49,659	\$377,470	\$83,326	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

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AVX CORPORATION SERP  
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND CHANGES IN PLAN EQUITY WITH FUND INFORMATION  
For the year ended December 31, 2003

	AVX Stock Fund	Kyocera Stock Fund	Seligman Equity Value Portfolio	T Rowe Price Spec-trum Fund	Vanguard Money Market Fund	Templeton Foreign Equity Fund	Vanguard 500 Index Fund	Janus Balanced Fund	Janus Fund	MFS Emerging Growth Fund	Lord Abbott Mid Cap Value Fund	PIM Tot Retn Fund
investment income												
dividends	\$42,544	\$2,503	\$1,862	\$935	\$22,869	\$ ---	\$7,911	\$3,414	\$1,452	\$ ---	\$268	\$259
interest	3,374	---	---	---	---	3,374	---	---	---	---	---	---
depreciation	638,346	117,886	41,110	126,808	45,681	---	85,420	51,569	8,159	124,961	28,895	5,543
(depreciation)												
fair value of												

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Investment income (loss)	684,264	120,389	42,972	127,743	68,550	3,374	93,331	54,983	9,611	124,961	29,163	5,802	3
Employee contributions	335,526	40,346	35,176	34,938	41,683	26,266	17,769	46,542	31,277	37,891	19,366	2,167	2
Adjustments:													
Benefit payments	(140,904)	(6,787)	(4,458)	(12,720)	---	(55,449)	---	(6,257)	---	(55,233)	---	---	
Net change in equity	878,886	153,948	73,690	149,961	110,233	(25,809)	111,100	95,268	40,888	107,619	48,529	7,969	5
Transfer of assets from employee investment plans, net	---	(1,232)	---	1,943	(327,171)	(437)	(195)	(1,668)	(145)	(1,547)	(52,439)	53,289	329
Equity at beginning of year	2,555,077	145,914	206,490	329,290	495,847	415,016	288,220	163,845	49,659	377,470	83,326	---	
Equity at end of year	\$3,433,963	\$298,630	\$280,180	\$481,194	\$278,909	\$388,770	\$399,125	\$257,445	\$90,402	\$483,542	\$79,416	\$61,258	\$335

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

AVX CORPORATION SERP  
 STATEMENT OF INCOME AND CHANGES IN PLAN EQUITY WITH FUND INFORMATION  
 For the year ended December 31, 2002

	Total	AVX Stock Fund	Kyocera Stock Fund	Equity Portfolio	Price Spectrum Fund	Money Market Fund	Foreign Equity Fund	500 Index Fund	Janus Balanced Fund	Janus Fund	MFS Emerging Growth Fund
Net investment income (loss):											
Dividends	\$41,421	\$2,059	\$1,497	\$23,240	\$-5,869	\$2,460	\$984	\$106	\$353		
				4,853							

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Interest	6,284	---	---	---	---	6,284	---	---	---	---	---
Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments	(590,441)	(7,718)	(3,283)	(42,921)	7,397	(31,378)	(40,743)	(3,350)	(133,089)	(35,414)	
Total income (loss)	(542,787)	(5,654)	(1,786)	(38,068)	30,637	6,284	(25,503)	(38,283)	(2,366)	(132,983)	(35,061)
Employee Contributions	370,161	42,466	36,170	26,406	47,494	25,359	20,559	55,239	29,787	54,697	31,984
Deductions:											
Benefit Payments	(67,731)	(9,846)	---	(2)	(55,480)	---	(2,401)	---	(2)	---	---
Income (loss) and changes in plan equity	(240,300)	(43,034)	4,431	(1,664)	78,131	(23,837)	(4,950)	14,555	27,421	(78,288)	(3,077)
Transfer of funds from employee investment elections, net	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Plan equity at beginning of year	2,795,388	2,889,942	2,056,409	4,954,177	1,716,638	852,931	704,290	2,238	455,758	86,403	
Plan equity at end of year	\$2,555,077	\$45,912	\$6,490	\$29,290	\$95,894	\$15,018	\$88,220	\$63,845	\$49,659	\$377,470	\$ 83,326

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

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AVX CORPORATION SERP  
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND CHANGES IN PLAN EQUITY WITH FUND INFORMATION  
For the year ended December 31, 2001

Total	AVX Stock Fund	Kyocera Stock Fund	Seligman Equity Value Portfolio		T Rowe Price Spec-trum Fund		Vanguard Treasury Money Market Fund		Vanguard Foreign Equity 500 Index Fund		Janus Balanced Fund		MFS Emerg-ing Growth Fund	
			Equity Value Portfolio	Price Spec-trum Fund	Treasury Money Market Fund	Foreign Equity 500 Index Fund	Janus Balanced Fund	Janus Fund	Janus Fund	Growth Fund				
Net investment income (loss):														
Dividends	\$ 37,925	\$1,449	\$1,029	\$ 3,765	\$ 21,280	\$ ---	\$ 8,204	\$1,549	\$ 397	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ 252	---
Interest	15,474	---	---	---	---	15,474	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments	(308,603)	71,738	(104,275)	(45,639)	(5,319)	---	(29,580)	(16,496)	(877)	(159,957)	(18,198)
Total income (loss)	(255,204)	73,187	(103,246)	(41,874)	15,961	15,474	(21,376)	(14,947)	(480)	(159,957)	(17,946)
Employee Contributions	854,795	98,122	78,955	174,242	110,792	67,883	85,026	59,365	14,933	115,625	49,852
Deductions: Benefit Payments	(69,877)	(11,398)	---	(4)	---	(54,181)	---	(4,294)	---	---	---
Income (loss) and changes in plan equity	529,714	159,911	(24,291)	132,364	126,753	29,176	63,650	40,124	14,453	(44,332)	31,906
Transfer of funds from employee investment elections, net	---	(38)	(32)	(205)	(74)	55,255	(48)	(21)	(2)	(54,823)	(12)
Plan equity at beginning of year	2,265,672	129,075	226,379	308,795	291,037	354,422	229,568	109,187	7,787	554,913	54,509
Plan equity at end of year	\$2,795,386	\$288,948	\$202,056	\$440,954	\$417,716	\$438,853	\$293,170	\$149,290	\$22,238	\$455,758	\$ 86,403

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

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## AVX CORPORATION SERP

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### 1. Description of Plan

The following brief description of the AVX Corporation SERP (the "Plan") is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan document for more complete information.

The Plan was established January 1, 1998 to provide certain officers and highly compensated managers of AVX Corporation (the "Company") with supplemental retirement benefits.

The Plan's investments are held by a trust fund administered by HSBC Bank USA (the "Trustee").

#### Eligibility

Any employee eligible to participate in the AVX Corporation Retirement Plan whose annual compensation is in excess of \$200,000 (as such limit is defined by the Internal Revenue Code) is eligible to participate in the



Plan.

Benefits

Benefits under the Plan shall be payable to a participant or beneficiary upon the earlier of such participant's termination of employment or death in a lump-sum payment or in installments over a period not to exceed 10 years. Each participant shall be fully vested and have a nonforfeitable interest in his account.

Deferred Compensation Amounts

The Plan allows participants to defer receipt of all or a portion of annual compensation currently in excess of \$200,000 (as such limit is defined by the Internal Revenue code) otherwise payable by the Company to such employee.

**2. Significant Accounting Policies**

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are presented on the accrual basis of accounting.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments in securities traded on a national securities exchange are valued at the closing sales price on the last business day of the plan year. Temporary cash investments in money market funds are valued at par, which represents market value as determined by the Trustee. For purposes of determining realized gains and losses, the Plan uses the average cost method to determine the cost basis of disposed assets.

Administrative Expenses

Administrative expenses of the Plan are paid by the Company.

Investments

As of December 31, 2003, the investment alternatives include the following:

Vanguard Treasury Money Market Fund

: The Vanguard Treasury Money Market Fund seeks the maximum current income consistent with preservation of capital and liquidity by investing in U.S. Treasury obligations and repurchase agreements relating to U.S. Treasury obligations. This fund had four participants at December 31, 2002 and seven participants at December 31, 2003.

T. Rowe Price Spectrum Income Fund

: The T.Rowe Price Spectrum Income Fund seeks a high level of current income consistent with moderate share price fluctuation by investing primarily in domestic bond funds and also in a foreign bond fund. This fund had four participants at December 31, 2002 and three participants at December 31, 2003. This fund is no longer an investment alternative for future contributions.

### Seligman Equity Portfolio

: The Seligman Equity Portfolio seeks capital appreciation through a value-oriented, diversified portfolio comprised of high-quality stocks. This fund had nine participants at December 31, 2002 and ten participants at December 31, 2003.

### Kyocera Stock Fund:

This fund is invested exclusively in shares of the Kyocera Corporation. The objective is to give participants the opportunity to share in the success and growth of Kyocera and AVX by allowing participants to become part owners. The fund's value will fluctuate, based on the success of Kyocera, AVX and the stock market in general. This fund had three participants at December 31, 2002 and 2003.

### Templeton Foreign Fund

: The Templeton Foreign Fund seeks long-term capital growth by investing in stocks and debt obligations of companies and governments outside the United States. This fund had seven participants at December 31, 2002 and eight participants at December 31, 2003.

### AVX Stock Fund

: This fund is invested exclusively in shares of AVX stock. This fund gives participants the opportunity to share in the success and growth of AVX. The fund's value will fluctuate, based on the success of AVX and the stock market in general. This fund had thirteen participants at December 31, 2002 and twelve participants at December 31, 2003.

### Janus Balanced Fund

: The Janus Balanced Fund seeks long-term growth of capital balanced by current income by normally investing 40% to 60% of assets in securities selected for their growth potential and 40% to 60% of assets in securities selected for their income potential. This fund had six participants at December 31, 2002 and 2003.

### Janus Fund

: The Janus Fund seeks long-term growth of capital, consistent with preservation of capital, by investing primarily in common stock of companies of any size. This fund had eleven participants at December 31, 2002 and ten participants at December 31, 2003.

### Vanguard 500 Index Fund

: The Vanguard 500 Index Fund seeks to track, as close as possible, the investment performance of the S&P 500 Index by investing in each of the Index's 500 stocks according to each stock's weighting in the Index. This fund had nine participants at December 31, 2002 and 2003.

### MFS Emerging Growth Fund:

The MFS Emerging Growth Fund seeks above-average long-term capital growth by investing in common stocks of small to mid-size companies. This fund had six participants at December 31, 2002 and four participants at December 31, 2003. This fund is no longer an investment alternative for future contributions.

### Lord Abbett Mid-Cap Value Fund:

The Lord Abbett Mid-Cap Value Fund seeks capital appreciation. Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 65% of its total assets in middle capitalization companies having an aggregate market value between \$200 million and \$5 billion. This fund option was added to the Plan during 2003 and had four participants at December 31, 2003.

### PIMCO Total Return Fund:

The PIMCO Total Return Fund seeks maximum total return by investing primarily in fixed income securities of varying maturities. This fund option was added to the Plan during 2003 and had three participants at December 31, 2003.

The Plan's realized losses for the years ended December 31 were as follows:

	2001	2002	2003
Proceeds	\$272,225	\$159,314	\$1,014,794
Aggregate cost	302,117	163,051	1,047,784
Realized losses	\$(29,892)	\$ (3,737)	\$ (32,990)

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The Plan's unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments at December 31 were as follows:

	2001	2002	2003
AVX Corporation Common Stock	\$ 84,382	\$ (92,024)	\$ 28,347
Kyocera ADS	(51,713)	(84,945)	(42,813)
Other investments	(397,382)	(774,451)	(265,617)
Total Unrealized Depreciation	\$(364,713)	\$(951,420)	\$(280,083)

Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments on the Statement of Income and Changes in Plan Equity with Fund Information represents realized gains (losses) and the cumulative change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) for the respective years.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of the Plan's financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the plan administrator to make significant estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of plan equity at the date of the financial statements and the changes of plan equity during the reporting period and, when applicable, disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan provides for various investment options in registered investment companies which invest in combinations of stocks, bonds, fixed income securities, mutual funds, and other 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 such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statement of financial condition with fund information. The market value of the Plan assets are included as an asset and a liability on the Company's balance sheet because the Plan's assets are available to AVX's general creditors in the event of the Company's insolvency.

- **Plan Termination**

Although the Company has not expressed any intent to do so, it has the right to terminate the Plan at any time. However, termination of the Plan shall not, without the consent of a Participant, adversely affect such Participant's rights with respect to amounts then accrued in his/her account.

• **Federal Income Taxes**

The Plan is a grantor type trust and is not qualified under Section 401 of the Internal Revenue code. Under Section 671 of the Internal Revenue Code, items of income, deduction or credit in a grantor trust are treated as belonging to the grantor. These items are reported on the income tax return of the grantor, AVX Corporation. Participants must include distributions in taxable income at the time of withdrawal.

• **Transactions with Parties-In-Interest**

Amounts of Kyocera ADS, the Company's majority stockholder, held by the Plan at December 31 were as follows:

	2002	2003
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Shares	3,593	4,123
Market value per share	\$57.15	\$67.00
Market value	\$205,340	\$276,241

Amounts of AVX Corporation stock held by the Plan at December 31 were as follows:

	2002	2003
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Shares	14,754	17,650
Market value per share	\$9.80	\$16.62
Market value	\$144,546	\$293,343

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Administrative Committee has duly caused this annual report to be signed by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

AVX CORPORATION SERP

(Name of Plan)

BY: /S/ KURT P. CUMMINGSKurt P. Cummings  
Member of Administrative CommitteeDate: March 31, 2004

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## AVX CORPORATION SERP

## SCHEDULE I - INVESTMENTS

As of December 31, 2003

Description	Number of shares/units	Market value	Percentage of Net Assets
Short-term Temporary Investments	9,226	\$ 9,226	0.3%
T. Rowe Price Spectrum Income Fund	23,703	278,909	8.1%
Vanguard Treasury Money Market Fund	388,770	388,770	11.3%
Janus Balanced Fund	4,534	90,402	2.6%
Janus Fund	20,603	483,542	14.1%
MFS Emerging Growth Fund	2,809	79,416	2.3%
Seligman Equity Portfolio	47,785	481,194	14.0%
Templeton Foreign Fund	37,512	399,125	11.6%
Vanguard 500 Index Fund	2,507	257,445	7.5%
Lord Abbett Mid-Cap Value Fund	3,253	61,258	1.8%
PIMCO Total Return Fund	31,288	335,092	9.8%
AVX Corporation Common Stock	17,650	293,343	8.6%

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Kyocera ADS	4,123	276,241	8.0%
		<hr/>	
Total Investments		<u>3,433,963</u>	