

LITHIA MOTORS INC  
Form SC 13G  
February 14, 2017

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

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
(Amendment No. n/a)\*

Lithia Motors Inc

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(Name of Issuer)

Common

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(Title of Class of Securities)

536797103

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(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2016

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(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)
- Rule 13d-1(c)
- Rule 13d-1(d)

\* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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CUSIP No. 536797103

**1** NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)  
Neuberger Berman Group LLC

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

**2**  
(a)   
(b)

**3** SEC USE ONLY

**4** CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
Delaware

**5** SOLE VOTING POWER

0

NUMBER OF  
SHARES  
BENEFICIALLY **6**  
OWNED BY  
EACH  
REPORTING  
PERSON WITH:

SHARED VOTING POWER

1328252

**7** SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

0

**8** SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

1328252

**9** AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  
1328252

**10** CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

x

**11** PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

5.67%

**12** TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

HC

FOOTNOTES

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CUSIP No. 536797103

**1** NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS  
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)  
Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

**2**  
(a)   
(b)

**3** SEC USE ONLY

**4** CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
Delaware

**5** SOLE VOTING POWER  
0

NUMBER OF  
SHARES  
BENEFICIALLY **6**  
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REPORTING  
PERSON WITH:

**7** SHARED VOTING POWER  
1328252  
SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
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x

**11** PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

5.67%

**12** TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)

IA

FOOTNOTES

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Item 1.

- (a) Name of Issuer  
Lithia Motors Inc
- (b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices  
150 NORTH BARTLETT STREET  
MEDFORD, OR 97501

Item 2.

- (a) Name of Person Filing  
Neuberger Berman Group LLC  
Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC
- (b) Address of Principal Business Office or, if none, Residence  
1290 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10104
- (c) Citizenship  
Delaware
- (d) Title of Class of Securities  
Common
- (e) CUSIP Number  
536797103

Item 3. If this statement is filed pursuant to §§240.13d-1(b) or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:

- (a)  Broker or dealer registered under section 15 of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78o).
- (b)  Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).
- (c)  Insurance company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).
- (d)  Investment company registered under section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C 80a-8).
- (e)  An investment adviser in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
- (f)  An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
- (g)  A parent holding company or control person in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);
- (h)  A savings associations as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);
- (i)

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A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3);

(j)           o           A non-U.S. institution in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

(k) x A group, in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(K). If filing as a non-U.S. institution in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J), please specify the type of institution:

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Item 4. Ownership.

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number and percentage of the class of securities of the issuer identified in Item 1.

- (a) Amount beneficially owned: 1,328,252
- (b) Percent of class: 5.67%
- (c) Number of shares as to which the person has:
  - (i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote: 0
  - (ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 1,328,252
  - (iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 0
  - (iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 1,328,252

Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following o .

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

Neuberger Berman Group LLC and its affiliates may be deemed to be beneficial owners of securities for purposes of Exchange Act Rule 13d-3 because they or certain affiliated persons have shared power to retain, dispose of or vote the securities of unrelated clients. Neuberger Berman Group LLC or its affiliated persons do not, however, have any economic interest in the securities of those clients. The clients have the sole right to receive and the power to direct the receipt of dividends from or proceeds from the sale of such securities. No one client has an interest of more than 5% of the issuer.

With regard to the shares set forth under item 4(c)(ii), Neuberger Berman Group LLC may be deemed to be the beneficial owner for purposes of Rule 13d-3 because certain affiliated persons have shared power to retain, dispose of and vote the securities. In addition to the holdings of individual advisory clients, Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC serves as investment manager of Neuberger Berman Group LLC's various registered mutual funds which hold such shares. The holdings belonging to clients of Neuberger Berman Trust Co N.A., Neuberger Berman Trust Co of Delaware N.A., NB Alternatives Advisers LLC and Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC are also aggregated to comprise the holdings referenced herein.

In addition to the shares set forth under Item 4(c)(ii) for which Neuberger entities also have shared power to dispose of the shares, item 4(c)(iv) also includes shares from individual client accounts over which Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC has shared power to dispose but does not have voting power over these shares. The holdings of Neuberger Berman Trust Co N.A., Neuberger Berman Trust Co of Delaware N.A., NB Alternatives Advisers LLC and Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC, are also aggregated to comprise the holdings referenced herein.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group

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Item Certification  
10.

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect, other than activities solely in connection with a nomination under §240.14a-11.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

**Neuberger Berman Group LLC**

Date: February 14, 2017

By: /s/ Brad Cetron  
Name: Brad Cetron  
Title: Deputy General Counsel

**Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC**

Date: February 14, 2017

By: /s/ Brad Cetron  
Name: Brad Cetron  
Title: Deputy General Counsel

Footnotes: Item 4(a):

Neuberger Berman Trust Co N.A., Neuberger Berman Trust Co of Delaware N.A., NB Alternatives Advisers LLC and Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC and certain affiliated persons may be deemed to beneficially own the securities covered by this report in their various fiduciary capacities by virtue of the provisions of Exchange Act Rule 13d-3. Neuberger Berman Group LLC, through its subsidiaries Neuberger Berman Fixed Income Holdings LLC, NB Alternatives Holdings LLC and Neuberger Trust Holdings LLC controls Neuberger Berman Trust Co N.A., Neuberger Berman Trust Co of Delaware N.A., NB Alternatives Advisers LLC and Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC and certain affiliated persons.

This report is not an admission that any of these entities are the beneficial owner of the securities covered by this report and each of Neuberger Berman Group LLC, Neuberger Berman Fixed Income Holdings LLC, NB Alternatives Holdings LLC, Neuberger Trust Holdings LLC, Neuberger Berman Trust Co N.A., Neuberger Berman Trust Co of Delaware N.A., NB Alternatives Advisers LLC and Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC and certain affiliated persons disclaim beneficial ownership of the securities

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covered by this statement pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 13d-4.

Attention: Intentional misstatements or omissions of fact constitute Federal criminal violations (See 18 U.S.C. 1001)

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