

DODGE & COX
Form SC 13G
February 11, 2009

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

SCHEDULE 13G

UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

(AMENDMENT NO. _____)*

Sprint Nextel Corporation

(Name of Issuer)

Common shares

(Title of Class of Securities)

852061100

(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2008

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

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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).

PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES

CUSIP No. 852061100

1 Name of Reporting Person

S.S. OR I.R.S. Identification No. of above person

Dodge & Cox 94-1441976

2 Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group*

(a)

(b)

N/A

3 SEC Use Only

4 Citizenship or Place of Organization

California U.S.A.

5 Sole Voting Power

NUMBER OF 184,526,913

6 Shared Voting Power

SHARES

438,700

BENEFICIALLY 7 Sole Dispositive Power

OWNED BY 195,440,413

8 Shared Dispositive Power

EACH

0

REPORTING

PERSON

WITH

9 Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person

195,440,413

10 Check box if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares*

N/A

11 Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row 9

7.0%

12 Type of Reporting Person*

IA

PAGE 2 OF 5 PAGES

- Item 1(a) Name of Issuer:
Sprint Nextel Corporation
- Item 1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:
6200 Sprint Parkway
Overland Park, KS
- Item 2(a) Name of Person Filing:
Dodge & Cox
- Item 2(b) Address of the Principal Office or, if none, Residence:
555 California Street, 40th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94104
- Item 2(c) Citizenship:
California U.S.A.
- Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities:
Common shares
- Item 2(e) CUSIP Number:
852061100
- Item 3 If the Statement is being filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b), check whether the person filing is a:
(e) Investment Advisor registered under section 203 of the Investment Advisors Act of 1940
- Item 4 Ownership:
(a) Amount Beneficially Owned:
195,440,413

(b) Percent of Class:
7.0%

(c) Number of shares as to which such person has:

- (i) sole power to vote or direct the vote:
184,526,913
- (ii) shared power to vote or direct the vote:
438,700
- (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the
disposition of: 195,440,413
- (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the
disposition of: 0

Item 5 Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:
Not applicable.

Item 6 Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person:
Securities reported on this Schedule 13G are beneficially owned by clients of Dodge & Cox, which clients may include investment companies registered under the Investment Company Act and/or employee benefit plans, pension funds, endowment funds or other institutional clients.

Item 7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company:
Not applicable.

Item 8 Identification and Classification of Members of the Group:
Not applicable.

Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of a Group:
Not applicable.

Item 10 Certification:
By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purpose or effect.

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.

Dated: February 11, 2009

DODGE & COX

By: /S/ THOMAS M. MISTELE

Name: Thomas M. Mistele

Title: General Counsel & COO

PAGE 5 OF 5 PAGES