APPLE COMPUTER INC Form SC TO-I March 20, 2003

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE TO (Rule 13e-4)

Tender Offer Statement Under Section 14(d)(1) or 13(e)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Apple Computer, Inc.

(Name of Subject Company (Issuer) and Filing Person (Offeror))

Options to Purchase Common Stock, no par value

(Title of Class of Securities)

037833100

(CUSIP Number of Class of Securities Underlying Options to Purchase Common Stock)

Nancy R. Heinen General Counsel Apple Computer, Inc. 1 Infinite Loop, M/S 301-4CL Cupertino, California 95014 (408) 996-1010

(Name, address and telephone number of person authorized to receive notices and communications on behalf of filing person)

Copies to:

Larry W. Sonsini, Esq.
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650 Page Mill Road
Palo Alto, California 94304-1050
(650) 493-9300

CALCULATION OF FILING FEE

Transaction Valuation*	Amount of Filing Fee
\$53,476,719.81	\$4,326.27

Calculated solely for purposes of determining the filing fee. This amount assumes that options to purchase 18,012,313 shares of common stock of Apple Computer, Inc. having an aggregate value of \$53,476,719.81 as of March 19, 2003 will be exchanged or cancelled pursuant to this offer. The aggregate value of such options was calculated based on the Black-Scholes option pricing model. The amount of the filing fee, calculated in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, equals \$80.90 for each \$1,000,000 of the value of the transaction.

Check the box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing with which the offsetting fee was previously paid. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

Amount Previously Paid:
Form or Registration No.:
Filing party:
Not applicable.
Pote filed:
Not applicable.
Not applicable.
Not applicable.

Check the box if the filing relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer.

Check the appropriate boxes below to designate any transactions to which the statement relates:

- o third party tender offer subject to Rule 14d-1.
- ý issuer tender offer subject to Rule 13e-4.

o

o

- o going-private transaction subject to Rule 13e-3.
- o amendment to Schedule 13D under Rule 13d-2.

Check the following box if the filing is a final amendment reporting the results of the tender offer: o

This Tender Offer Statement on Schedule TO relates to an offer by Apple Computer, Inc., a California corporation ("Apple" or the "Company"), to exchange (the "Exchange Offer") options to purchase an aggregate of 18,012,313 shares of the Company's common stock, whether vested or unvested, that have been granted under its 1997 Employee Stock Option Plan, as amended through October 19, 2001, with exercise prices equal to or greater than \$25.00 per share (the "Eligible Options") and that are held by eligible employees. These Eligible Options may be exchanged for new options that will be granted under the Company's 1997 Employee Stock Option Plan (the "New Options"), upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in (i) the Offer to Exchange Certain Outstanding Options Under Our 1997 Employee Stock Option Plan for New Options under Our 1997 Employee Stock Option Plan, dated March 20, 2003 (the "Offer to Exchange"), (ii) the Stock Option Exchange Program Overview, (iii) the Stock Option Exchange Program Frequently Asked Questions, (iv) the Web Site Election Forms, and (v) the Hard Copy Election Form. These documents, as they may be amended or supplemented from time to time, together constitute the "Disclosure Documents" and are attached to this Schedule TO as Exhibits (a)(1)(a) through (a)(1)(e), respectively. An "eligible employee" refers to all persons who are non-executive officer employees of Apple or one of its subsidiaries hired on or before March 20, 2003 and remain employees through the date on which the New Options are granted. Executive officers and members of the Company's Board of Directors are ineligible to participate in the Exchange Offer.

The information in the Disclosure Documents, including all schedules and annexes to the Disclosure Documents, is incorporated by reference in answer to the items required in this Schedule TO.

Item 1. Summary Term Sheet.

The information set forth under the caption "Summary Term Sheet" in the Offer to Exchange is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 2. Subject Company Information.

(a)

Name and Address.

Apple is the issuer of the securities subject to the Exchange Offer. The address of the Company's principal executive office is 1 Infinite Loop, Cupertino, California 95014 and the telephone number at that address is (408) 996-1010. The information set forth in the Offer to Exchange under the caption "The Offer Information concerning Apple" is incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Securities.

The subject class of securities consists of the Eligible Options. The actual number of shares of common stock subject to the New Options to be issued in the Exchange Offer will depend on the number of shares of common stock subject to the unexercised options tendered by eligible employees and accepted for exchange and cancelled. The information set forth in the Offer to Exchange under the captions "Summary Term Sheet," "Risks of Participating in the Offer," and the sections under the caption "The Offer" entitled "Number of options; expiration date," "Acceptance of options for exchange and issuance of new options," "Source and amount of consideration; terms of new options" is incorporated herein by reference.

(c) Trading Market and Price.

The information set forth in the Offer to Exchange under the caption "The Offer Price range of shares underlying the options" is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 3. Identity and Background of Filing Person.

(a) Name and Address.

2

The filing person is the issuer. The information set forth under Item 2(a) above is incorporated by reference.

Pursuant to General Instruction C to Schedule TO, the information set forth on Schedule A to the Offer to Exchange is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 4. Terms of the Transaction.

(a)

Material Terms.

The information set forth in the Offer to Exchange under the captions "Summary Term Sheet" and the sections under the caption "The Offer" entitled "Eligibility," "Number of options; expiration date," "Procedures for electing to exchange options," "Withdrawal rights and change of election," "Acceptance of options for exchange and issuance of new options," "Conditions of the offer," "Source and amount of consideration; terms of new options," "Price range of shares underlying the options," "Status of options acquired by us in the offer; accounting consequences of the offer," "Legal matters; regulatory approvals," "Material U.S. federal income tax consequences; material non-U.S. tax consequences," and "Extension of offer; termination; amendment" is incorporated herein by reference.

(b) **Purchases**.

The information set forth in the Offer to Exchange under the caption "The Offer Interests of directors and officers; transactions and arrangements concerning the options" is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 5. Past Contacts, Transactions, Negotiations and Arrangements.

(e)
Agreements Involving the Subject Company's Securities.

The information set forth in the Offer to Exchange under the caption "The Offer Interests of directors and officers; transactions and arrangements concerning the options" is incorporated herein by reference. The eligible option plan and related option agreement attached hereto as Exhibits (d)(1) and (d)(2) contain information regarding the subject securities.

Item 6. Purposes of the Transaction and Plans or Proposals.

(a) **Purposes**.

The information set forth in the Offer to Exchange under the captions "Summary Term Sheet" and "The Offer Purpose of the offer" is incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Use of Securities Acquired.

The information set forth in the Offer to Exchange under the captions "The Offer Acceptance of options for exchange and issuance of new options" and "The Offer Status of options acquired by us in the offer; accounting consequences of the offer" is incorporated herein by reference.

(c) Plans.

The information set forth in the Offer to Exchange under the caption "The Offer Purpose of the offer" is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 7. Source and Amount of Funds or Other Consideration.

(a) Source of Funds.

The information set forth in the Offer to Exchange under the captions "The Offer Source and amount of consideration; terms of new options" is incorporated herein by reference.

(b) **Conditions**.

Not applicable.

(d) **Borrowed Funds**.

3

Not applicable.

Item 8. Interest in Securities of the Subject Company.

(a) Securities Ownership.

The information set forth in the Offer to Exchange under the caption "The Offer Interests of directors and officers; transactions and arrangements concerning the options" is incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Securities Transactions.

The information set forth in the Offer to Exchange under the caption "The Offer Interests of directors and officers; transactions and arrangements concerning the options" is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9. Person/Assets, Retained, Employed, Compensated or Used.

(a) Solicitations or Recommendations.

Not applicable.

Item 10. Financial Statements.

(a) Financial Information.

The information set forth in Schedule B to the Offer to Exchange and in the Offer to Exchange under the captions "The Offer Information concerning Apple," "The Offer Financial statements," and "The Offer Additional information" is incorporated herein by reference. The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K and the Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q can also be accessed electronically on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at http://www.sec.gov.

(b) **Pro Forma Information**.

Not applicable.

Item 11. Additional Information.

(a) Agreements, Regulatory Requirements and Legal Proceedings.

The information set forth in the Offer to Exchange under the caption "The Offer Legal matters; regulatory approvals" is incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Other Material Information.

Not applicable.

4

Item 12. Exhibits.

- (a)(1)(a) Offer to Exchange Certain Outstanding Options Under Our 1997 Employee Stock Option Plan for New Options under Our 1997 Employee Stock Option Plan, dated March 20, 2003.
 - (b) Stock Option Exchange Program Overview.
 - (c) Stock Option Exchange Program Frequently Asked Questions.

	(d)	Web Site Election Forms.
	(e)	Hard Copy Election Form.
	(f)	Email from Steven P. Jobs dated March 20, 2003.
	(g)	Web Announcement.
	(h)	Press Release.
	(i)	Web Site Election Confirmation.
	(j)	Form of Confirmation of Cancellation of Tendered Options and Promise to Grant New Options.
	(k)	PIN Email for Eligible Employees with No Potential "Required Options."
	(1)	PIN Email for Eligible Employees with Potential "Required Options."
	(m)	Email to Employees with No Eligible Options.
	(n)	Option Exchange Reminder Emails.
	(0)	Election Web Site Pages.
	(p)	Supplementary Australian Document.
	(b)	Not applicable.
	(d)(1)	Apple 1997 Employee Stock Option Plan, as amended through October 19, 2001, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.A.49 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2002.
	(2)	Form of stock option agreement for Apple 1997 Stock Option Plan, as amended through October 11, 2000, incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.11 to the Company's registration statement on Form S-8 filed December 24, 2001.
	(g)	Not applicable.
	(h)	Not applicable.
Item 13. Inform	nation Required	by Schedule 13E-3.
(a)		
	Not applicab	le.
		5

SIGNATURE

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

APPLE COMPUTER, INC.

/s/ FRED D. ANDERSON

Fred D. Anderson

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Date: March 20, 2003

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

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(a)(1)(k)	PIN Email for Eligible Employees with No Potential "Required Options."
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QuickLinks

Item 1. Summary Term Sheet.

Item 2. Subject Company Information.

Item 3. Identity and Background of Filing Person.

Item 4. Terms of the Transaction.

Item 5. Past Contacts, Transactions, Negotiations and Arrangements.

Item 6. Purposes of the Transaction and Plans or Proposals.

Item 7. Source and Amount of Funds or Other Consideration.

Item 8. Interest in Securities of the Subject Company.

Item 9. Person/Assets, Retained, Employed, Compensated or Used.

Item 10. Financial Statements.

Item 11. Additional Information.

Item 12. Exhibits.

Item 13. Information Required by Schedule 13E-3.

SIGNATURE

INDEX TO EXHIBITS