

Edgar Filing: WORLD ACCEPTANCE CORP - Form SC 13G/A

WORLD ACCEPTANCE CORP  
Form SC 13G/A  
February 12, 2003

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

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. 7) \*

World Acceptance Corporation

-----  
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock

-----  
(Title of Class of Securities)

981419104

-----  
(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2002

-----  
(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).

Page 1 of 10 pages

SEC 1745 (2/92)

-----  
CUSIP No. 981419104

13G

-----  
Page 2 of 10 Pages  
-----

-----  
1      NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
         S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Liberty Wanger Asset Management, L.P. 36-3820584

Edgar Filing: WORLD ACCEPTANCE CORP - Form SC 13G/A

-----  
2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP\*  
  
Not Applicable (a) [ ]  
  
(b) [ ]  
-----

3 SEC USE ONLY  
-----

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
  
Delaware  
-----

NUMBER OF 5 SOLE VOTING POWER  
SHARES None  
-----

BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER  
OWNED BY 2,916,200  
-----

EACH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
REPORTING None  
-----

PERSON WITH 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
2,916,200  
-----

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  
  
2,916,200  
-----

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES\*  
  
Not Applicable [ ]  
-----

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9  
  
16.6%  
-----

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON\*  
  
IA  
-----

\*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!  
-----

Edgar Filing: WORLD ACCEPTANCE CORP - Form SC 13G/A

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

WAM Acquisition GP, Inc.

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP\*

Not Applicable

(a) [ ]

(b) [ ]

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF 5 SOLE VOTING POWER  
SHARES None

BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER

OWNED BY 2,916,200

EACH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER  
REPORTING None

PERSON WITH 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER  
2,916,200

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

2,916,200

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES\*

Not Applicable

[ ]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

16.6%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON\*

Edgar Filing: WORLD ACCEPTANCE CORP - Form SC 13G/A

CO

\*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP No. 981419104

13G

Page 4 of 10 Pages

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Liberty Acorn Trust

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP\*

Not Applicable

(a) [ ]

(b) [ ]

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Massachusetts

NUMBER OF 5 SOLE VOTING POWER

SHARES

None

BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER

OWNED BY

2,410,000

EACH

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

REPORTING

None

PERSON WITH

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

2,410,000

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

2,410,000

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES\*

Not Applicable

[ ]

Edgar Filing: WORLD ACCEPTANCE CORP - Form SC 13G/A

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

13.8%

-----  
12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON\*

IV  
-----

Item 1(a) Name of Issuer:

World Acceptance Corporation

Item 1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

108 Frederick Street  
Greenville, South Carolina 29607

Item 2(a) Name of Person Filing:

Liberty Wanger Asset Management, L.P. ("WAM")  
WAM Acquisition GP, Inc., the general partner of WAM  
("WAM GP")  
Liberty Acorn Trust ("Acorn")

Item 2(b) Address of Principal Business Office:

WAM, WAM GP and Acorn are all located at:  
  
227 West Monroe Street, Suite 3000  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Item 2(c) Citizenship:

WAM is a Delaware limited partnership; WAM GP is a  
Delaware corporation; and Acorn is a Massachusetts  
business trust.

Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock

Item 2(e) CUSIP Number:

981419104

Item 3 Type of Person:

- (d) Acorn is an Investment Company under section 8 of the Investment Company Act.
- (e) WAM is an Investment Adviser registered under section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940; WAM GP is the General Partner of the Investment Adviser.

Page 5 of 10 pages

Item 4 Ownership (at December 31, 2002):

Edgar Filing: WORLD ACCEPTANCE CORP - Form SC 13G/A

- (a) Amount owned "beneficially" within the meaning of rule 13d-3:  
  
2,916,200
- (b) Percent of class:  
  
16.6% (based on 17,518,178 shares outstanding as of November 14, 2002, based on Form 10-Q filed on November 14, 2002).
- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
  - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: none
  - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 2,916,200
  - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: none
  - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct disposition of: 2,916,200

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:

The shares reported herein have been acquired on behalf of discretionary clients of WAM, including Acorn. Persons other than WAM and WAM GP are entitled to receive all dividends from, and proceeds from the sale of, those shares. Acorn is the only such person known to be entitled to all dividends from, and all proceeds from the sale of, shares reported herein to the extent of more than 5% of the class.

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 Group:

Not Applicable

Page 6 of 10 Pages

Item 10 Certification:

Edgar Filing: WORLD ACCEPTANCE CORP - Form SC 13G/A

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.

Page 7 of 10 Pages

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.

Date: February 12, 2003

The undersigned corporation, on the date above written, agrees and consents to the joint filing on its behalf of this Schedule 13G in connection with its beneficial ownership of the security reported herein.

WAM Acquisition GP, Inc.  
for itself and as general partner of  
LIBERTY WANGER ASSET  
MANAGEMENT, L.P.

By: /s/ Bruce H. Lauer

-----  
Bruce H. Lauer  
Senior Vice President and Secretary

The undersigned corporation, on the date above written, agrees and consents to the joint filing on its behalf of this Schedule 13G in connection with its beneficial ownership of the security reported herein.

LIBERTY ACORN TRUST

By: /s/ Bruce H. Lauer

-----  
Bruce H. Lauer  
Vice President, Treasurer and  
Secretary

Page 8 of 10 Pages

Exhibit Index

Exhibit 1      Joint Filing Agreement dated as of February 12, 2003 by and among Liberty Wanger Asset Management, L.P., WAM Acquisition GP, Inc. and Liberty Acorn Trust.

Page 9 of 10 Pages