

Conifer Holdings, Inc.
Form SC 13D
October 10, 2017

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

SCHEDULE 13D

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Conifer Holdings, Inc.
(Name of Issuer)

Common stock, no par value
(Title of Class of Securities)

20731J102
(CUSIP Number)

Clarkston Ventures, LLC

91 West Long Lake Road

Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

(248) 205-2254
(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications)
September 28, 2017

(Date of Event which Requires Filing of this Statement)

If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition that is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this schedule because of 240.13d-1(e), 240.13d-1(f) or 240.13d-1(g), check the following box .

Note: Schedules filed in paper format shall include a signed original and five copies of the schedule, including all exhibits. See 240.13d-7(b) for other parties to whom copies are to be sent.

*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 disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on 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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1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE
PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)
Clarkston Ventures, LLC

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A
MEMBER OF A GROUP*
(a) [X]

3 (b) []
SEC USE ONLY

4 SOURCE OF FUNDS (See Instructions)
WC

5 CHECK IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL
PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT
TO ITEMS 2(D) OR 2(E) []

6 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF
ORGANIZATION
Michigan

7 NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH

8 SOLE VOTING POWER
660,976

9 SHARED VOTING POWER

10 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
660,976

11 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

12 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
660,976

13 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (See Instructions)
 []

14 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11)
7.9%

15 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (See Instructions)
PN

CUSIP No. 20731J102 SCHEDULE 13D Page 3 of 8 Pages

1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS
 I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE
 PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)
 Jeffrey A. Hakala
 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A
 MEMBER OF A GROUP*
2 (a)
 (b)
3 SEC USE ONLY
4 SOURCE OF FUNDS (See Instructions)
 AF
 CHECK IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL
5 PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT
 TO ITEMS 2(D) OR 2(E)
6 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF
 ORGANIZATION
 USA
 NUMBER OF **7** SOLE VOTING POWER
 SHARES 660,976
 BENEFICIALLY **8** SHARED VOTING POWER
 OWNED BY
 EACH **9** SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
 REPORTING 660,976
 PERSON **10** SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
 WITH
11 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY
 OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
 660,976
12 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE
 AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES
 CERTAIN SHARES (See Instructions)

13 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY
 AMOUNT IN ROW (11)
 7.9%
14 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (See
 Instructions)
 IN

CUSIP No. 20731J102 SCHEDULE 13D Page 4 of 8 Pages

1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE
PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)
Gerald W. Hakala

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A
MEMBER OF A GROUP*
(a) [X]

3 (b) []
SEC USE ONLY

4 SOURCE OF FUNDS (See Instructions)
AF

5 CHECK IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL
PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT
TO ITEMS 2(D) OR 2(E) []

6 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF
ORGANIZATION
USA

7 NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH

8 SOLE VOTING POWER
660,976

9 SHARED VOTING POWER

10 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
660,976

11 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

12 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
660,976

13 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (See Instructions)
 []

14 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11)
7.9%

15 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (See Instructions)
IN

CUSIP No. 20731J102 SCHEDULE 13D Page 5 of 8 Pages

1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS
I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE
PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)
Jeremy J. Modell

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A
MEMBER OF A GROUP*
(a) [X]

3 (b) []
SEC USE ONLY

4 SOURCE OF FUNDS (See Instructions)
AF

5 CHECK IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL
PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT
TO ITEMS 2(D) OR 2(E) []

6 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF
ORGANIZATION
USA

NUMBER OF 7 SOLE VOTING POWER
SHARES 660,976

BENEFICIALLY 8 SHARED VOTING POWER
OWNED BY

EACH 9 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
REPORTING 660,976
PERSON

WITH 10 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

11 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
660,976

12 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE
AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES (See Instructions)
 []

13 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY
AMOUNT IN ROW (11)
7.9%

14 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (See
Instructions)
IN

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Item 1.

Security and Issuer

This Schedule 13D is being filed with respect to shares of Common Stock issued by Conifer Holdings, Inc., whose principal executive offices are at 550 West Merrill Street, Suite 200, Birmingham, MI 48009.

Item 2.

Identity and Background

This Schedule 13D is being filed with respect to shares of the Issuer's Common Stock held by Clarkston Ventures, LLC. Jeffrey A. Hakala, Gerald W. Hakala, and Jeremy J. Modell (the Individual Members) are the members of (a) Clarkston Ventures, LLC and are each deemed to have beneficial ownership over the Issuer's Common Stock owned by Clarkston Ventures, LLC. Together with Clarkston Ventures, LLC, the Individual Members comprise a group within the meaning of Section 13(d)(3) of the Act.

(b) The business address for each Reporting Person is 91 West Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304.

(c) Clarkston Ventures, LLC is a private special purpose vehicle. See also Item 2(a) above.

During the last five years, none of the Individual Members has been convicted in a criminal proceeding (excluding (d) traffic violations or similar misdemeanors). This Item 2(d) does not apply to Clarkston Ventures, LLC, per general instruction C to this Schedule 13D.

During the last five years, none of the Individual Members has been a party to a civil proceeding of a judicial or administrative body of competent jurisdiction where, as a result of such proceeding, he was or he became subject to (e) a judgment, decree or final order enjoining future violations of, or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws. This Item 2(e) does not apply to Clarkston Ventures, LLC, per general instruction C to this Schedule 13D.

(f) Clarkston Ventures, LLC is a Michigan limited liability company. Each of the Individual Members is a citizen of the United States of America.

Item 3.

Source and Amount of Funds or Other Considerations

Clarkston Ventures, LLC subscribed to purchase 324,000 shares of Common Stock through a private placement on September 28, 2017. Those shares of Common Stock were purchased for \$6.25 using working capital of Clarkston Ventures, LLC.

Clarkston Ventures, LLC previously acquired 1,267 shares of Common Stock on March 20, 2017 for \$7.00 per share, 1,700 shares of Common Stock on March 21, 2017 for \$7.00 per share, 12,033 shares of Common Stock on March 21, 2017 for \$7.10 per share, 3 shares of Common Stock on April 6, 2017 for \$7.10 per share, 285,973 shares of Common Stock on May 22, 2017 for \$7.15 per share, 1,799 shares of Common Stock on July 18, 2017 for \$6.60 per share, and 34,201 shares of Common Stock on July 18, 2017 for \$6.70 per share, in each case in open market transactions using working capital of Clarkston Ventures, LLC.

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Item 4. Purpose of Transaction

Clarkston Ventures, LLC purchased its 660,976 shares of Common Stock of the Issuer for investment purposes. Clarkston Ventures, LLC is a private special purpose vehicle and is not an operating company or public company.

Item 5. Interest in Securities of the Issuer

As of the time of this filing, Clarkston Ventures, LLC owns 660,976 shares of the Issuer's Common Stock, or a (a) 7.9% ownership interest of the Issuer's Common Stock. For the Individual Members, who together with Clarkston Ventures, LLC comprise a group within the meaning of Section 13(d)(3) of the Act, see Item 2(a) above.

(b) See Item 2(a) above.

(c) See Item 3 above.

(d) N/A.

(e) N/A.

Item 6. Contracts, Arrangements, Understandings or Relationships with Respect to Securities of the Issuer
Except as set forth in this Schedule 13D, there are no contracts, arrangements, understandings or relationships among the Reporting Persons, or between the Reporting Persons and any other person, with respect to the securities of the Issuer.

Item 7. Material to Be Filed as Exhibits

None.

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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.

10/10/2017

Dated

/s/ Jeffrey A. Hakala

Signature

Jeffrey A. Hakala, Member

Name/Title