

AMERICAN COMMERCE SOLUTIONS

Form S-8

October 10, 2003

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## U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

### FORM S-8

**Registration Statement  
under the  
Securities Act of 1933**

## AMERICAN COMMERCE SOLUTIONS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p><b>Delaware</b><br/>(State or jurisdiction of<br/>incorporation or organization)</p> | <p><b>3559</b><br/>(Primary Standard Industrial<br/>Classification Code Number)</p> | <p><b>05-0460102</b><br/>(I.R.S. Employer<br/>Identification No.)</p> |
|---|---|---|

**1400 Chamber Drive, Bartow, Florida 33830**

(Address and telephone number of Registrant's principal executive offices and  
principal place of business)

**Employee Stock Incentive Plan for the Year 2003 No. 3  
Non-Employee Directors and Consultants Retainer Stock Plan for the Year 2003 No. 3**

(Full title of the Plans)

**Daniel L. Hefner, 1400 Chamber Drive, Bartow, Florida 33830**

(Name and address of agent for service)

**(863) 533-0326**

(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

#### Calculation of Registration Fee

| Title of securities to be registered | Amount to be registered | Proposed offering price per share <sup>(1)</sup> | Proposed maximum aggregate offering price | Amount of registration fee |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|----------------------------|
| Common Stock                         | 25,000,000              | \$0.035 <sup>(2)</sup>                           | \$875,000                                 | \$80.50                    |
| Common Stock                         | 15,000,000              | \$0.035 <sup>(3)</sup>                           | \$525,000                                 | \$48.30                    |
| Total                                | 40,000,000              |  | \$1,400,000                               | \$128.80                   |

(1) The Offering Price is used solely for purposes of estimating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(h) promulgated pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933.

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- (2) This Offering Price per Share is established pursuant to the option exercise price set forth in the Employee Stock Incentive Plan for the Year 2003 No. 3, set forth in Exhibit 4.1 to this Form S-8.
- (3) This Offering Price per Share is established pursuant to the Non-Employee Directors and Consultants Retainer Stock Plan for the Year 2003 No. 3, set forth in Exhibit 4.2 to this Form S-8.
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### Part I

#### Information Required in the Section 10(a) Prospectus

##### Item 1. Plan Information.

See Item 2 below.

##### Item 2. Registrant Information and Employee Plan Annual Information.

The documents containing the information specified in Part I, Items 1 and 2, will be delivered to each of the participants in accordance with Form S-8 and Rule 428 promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933. The participants shall be provided a written statement notifying them that upon written or oral request they will be provided, without charge, (i) the documents incorporated by reference in Item 3 of Part II of the registration statement, and (ii) other documents required to be delivered pursuant to Rule 428(b). The statement will inform the participants that these documents are incorporated by reference in the Section 10(a) prospectus, and shall include the address (giving title or department) and telephone number to which the request is to be directed.

### Part II

#### Information Required in the Registration Statement

##### Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following are hereby incorporated by reference:

- (a) The Registrant's latest annual report on Form 10-KSB for the fiscal year ended February 28, 2003, filed on June 13, 2003.
- (b) The Registrant's quarterly report on Form 10-QSB for the quarter ended May 31, 2003, filed July 9, 2003.
- (c) All other reports filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 since the end of the fiscal year covered by the Form 10-KSB referred to in (a) above.
- (d) A description of the Registrant's securities contained in the Registration Statement on Form SB-2 filed by the Registrant to register the common stock under the Securities Act, including all amendments filed for the purpose of updating such common stock description.

All documents subsequently filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in the registration statement and to be part thereof from the date of filing of such documents.

##### Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

**Item 5. Interest of Named Experts and Counsel.**

Other than as set forth below, no named expert or counsel was hired on a contingent basis, will receive a direct or indirect interest in the small business issuer, or was a promoter, underwriter, voting trustee, director, officer, or employee of the Registrant.

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**Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.**

Our bylaws do not contain a provision entitling any director or executive officer to indemnification against its liability under the Securities Act. The Delaware General Corporation Law allows a company to indemnify our officers, directors, employees, and agents from any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, except under certain circumstances. Indemnification may only occur if a determination has been made that the officer, director, employee, or agent acted in good faith and in a manner, which such person believed to be in the best interests of the Registrant. A determination may be made by the stockholders; by a majority of the directors who were not parties to the action, suit, or proceeding confirmed by opinion of independent legal counsel; or by opinion of independent legal counsel in the event a quorum of directors who were not a party to such action, suit, or proceeding does not exist.

Provided the terms and conditions of these provisions under Delaware law are met, officers, directors, employees, and agents of the Registrant may be indemnified against any cost, loss, or expense arising out of any liability under the Securities Act. Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant, we have been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission, such indemnification is against public policy and is, therefore, unenforceable.

Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, stated herein, provides further for permissive indemnification of officers and directors.

(a) A corporation shall have power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe the person's conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had reasonable cause to believe that the person's conduct was unlawful.

(b) A corporation shall have power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the

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circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Court of Chancery or such other court shall deem proper.

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(c) To the extent that a present or former director or officer of a corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith.

(d) Any indemnification under subsections (a) and (b) of this section (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the present or former director, officer, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances because the person has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of this section. Such determination shall be made, with respect to a person who is a director or officer at the time of such determination, (1) by a majority vote of the directors who are not parties to such action, suit or proceeding, even though less than a quorum, or (2) by a committee of such directors designated by majority vote of such directors, even though less than a quorum, or (3) if there are no such directors, or if such directors so direct, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or (4) by the stockholders.

(e) Expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by an officer or director in defending any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such director or officer to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that such person is not entitled to be indemnified by the corporation as authorized in this section. Such expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by former directors and officers or other employees and agents may be so paid upon such terms and conditions, if any, as the corporation deems appropriate.

(f) The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, the other subsections of this section shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, both as to action in such person's official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office.

(g) A corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, or arising out of such person's status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under this section.

(h) For purposes of this section, references to "the corporation" shall include, in addition to the resulting corporation, any constituent corporation (including any constituent of a constituent) absorbed in a consolidation or merger which, if its separate existence had continued, would have had power and authority to indemnify its directors, officers, and employees or agents, so that any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of such constituent corporation, or is or was serving at the request of such constituent corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, shall stand in the same position under this section with respect to the resulting or surviving corporation as such person would have with respect to such constituent corporation if its separate existence had continued.

(i) For purposes of this section, references to "other enterprises" shall include employee benefit plans; references to "fines" shall include any excise taxes assessed on a person with respect to any employee benefit plan; and references to "serving at the request of the corporation" shall include any

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service as a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation which imposes duties on, or involves services by, such director, officer, employee, or agent with respect to an employee benefit plan, its participants or beneficiaries; and a person who acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries of an employee benefit plan shall be deemed to have acted in a manner "not opposed to the best interests of the corporation" as referred to in this section.

(j) The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, this section shall, unless otherwise provided when authorized or ratified, continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

(k) The Court of Chancery is hereby vested with exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine all actions for advancement of expenses or indemnification brought under this section or under any bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors, or otherwise. The Court of Chancery may summarily determine a corporation's obligation to advance expenses (including attorneys' fees).

The Registrant, with approval of the Registrant's Board of Directors, may obtain directors' and officers' liability insurance.

**Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.**

Not applicable.

**Item 8. Exhibits.**

The Exhibits required by Item 601 of Regulation S-B, and an index thereto, are attached.

**Item 9. Undertakings.**

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(a) (1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement: (iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) To deliver or cause to be delivered with the prospectus, to each person to whom the prospectus is sent or given, the latest annual report to security holders that is incorporated by reference in the prospectus and furnished pursuant to and meeting the requirements of Rule 14a-3

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or Rule 14c-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and, where interim financial information required to be presented by Article 3 of Regulation S-X are not set forth in the prospectus, to deliver, or cause to be delivered to each person to whom the prospectus is sent or given, the latest quarterly report that is specifically incorporated by reference in the prospectus to provide such interim financial information

(d) That insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorize, in the City of Bartow, Florida, on September 25, 2003.

AMERICAN COMMERCE SOLUTIONS, INC.

By: /s/ DANIEL L. HEFNER

Daniel L. Hefner, President

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

| <b>Signature</b>       | <b>Title</b>                         | <b>Date</b>        |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| /s/ DANIEL L. HEFNER   | President and Director               | September 25, 2003 |
| Daniel L. Hefner       |                                      |                    |
| /s/ FRANK J. PUISSEGUR | Chief Financial Officer and Director | September 25, 2003 |
| Frank J. Puissegur     |                                      |                    |
| /s/ ROBERT E. MAXWELL  | Director                             | September 25, 2003 |
| Robert E. Maxwell      |                                      |                    |

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

| <b>Exhibit No.</b> | <b>Description</b>   |
|--------------------|--|
| 4.1                | Employee Stock Incentive Plan for the Year 2003 No. 3                              |
| 4.2                | Non-Employee Directors and Consultants Retainer Stock Plan for the Year 2003 No. 3 |
| 5                  | Opinion Re: Legality   |
| 23.1               | Consent of Accountants   |
| 23.2               | Consent of Counsel   |

QuickLinks

Part I Information Required in the Section 10(a) Prospectus

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