FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b) |
|---|
| Instruction 1(b). |
| |

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| OMB APP | ROVAL |
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| Estimated average burden | |

| | ss of Reporting Persor ANTHONY J | 1* | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP</u> [ADS] | (Check al | nship of Reporting P I applicable) Director | ersor X | n(s) to Issuer 10% Owner |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|--|----------------------|---|------------|-----------------------------|
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | | | Officer (give title below) | | Other (specify below) |
| C/O WELSH, CA STOWE | ARSON, ANDER | SON AND | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/05/2004 | | | | |
| 320 PARK AVE | NUE, SUITE 2500 |) | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Individu Line) | ual or Joint/Group Fil | ing ((| Check Applicable |
| (Street) | | | | X | Form filed by One Re | eporti | ing Person |
| NEW YORK | NY | 10022 | | | Form filed by More th Person | nan C | One Reporting |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | | | | | |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | Owned Following | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership |
|---------------------------------|--|---|------|---|---------|---------------|---------|--|---|--|
| | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock | 11/05/2004 | | S | | 400,000 | D | \$41.43 | 0 | I(1) | By Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VII, L.P. (2) |

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transa Code (8) | | of | | nstr. Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 | | of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | Expiration Date | | e and 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|-----|-----|--|--------------------|--|--|--|--|-----------------|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | | | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. The Reporting Person also directly beneficially owns 80,168 shares and indirectly beneficially owns 16,160,349 shares held by Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P. Pursuant to Instruction (4)(b)(iv) of Form 4, the Reporting Person has elected to report as indirectly beneficially owned the entire number of securities beneficially owned by such entity. The Reporting Person is a managing member of the sole general partner of Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of any securities, and any proceeds thereof, that exceed his pecuniary interest therein and/or that are not actually distributed to him.

2. Pursuant to Instruction (4)(b)(iv) of Form 4, the Reporting Person has elected to report as indirectly beneficially owned the entire number of securities beneficially owned by such limited partnership. The Reporting Person is a general partner of the sole general partner of Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VII, L.P. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of any securities, and any proceeds thereof, that exceed his pecuniary interest therein and/or that are not actually distributed to him.

Remarks:

| Jonathan N | <u> 1. Rather,</u> | <u>Attorney-</u> | 11 100 1000 1 |
|------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------|
| · | | | 11/09/2004 |

<u>in-Fact</u>

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.