FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  BELTZ MICHAEL A					2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP [ ADS ]								5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director  Officer (give title V Other (specify					
(Last) (First) (Middle) 17655 WATERVIEW PARKWAY					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/02/2004								X Officer (give title X Other (specify below)  Executive Vice President / President Utility  Services					
(Street)	S T	TX 75252-8012				4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)							6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting					
(City)	(City) (State) (Zip)												Person					
	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																	
Date				Transaction ate Month/Day/	Execution Date,		3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)  4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4			ed (A) or tr. 3, 4 and	Beneficia Owned F	Forn lly (D) collowing (I) (II		wnership n: Direct or Indirect nstr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)			
							Code	,	Amount	(A) o	Price	Transact	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)			(IIISU. 4)		
Common Stock 02/02/					2/2004		A		4,904(1	4,904 <sup>(1)</sup> A		76,4	76,445 <sup>(2)</sup>		D			
	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)	Code		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		Derivative Security	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	e s Illy	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
				Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisabl		Expiration Date	Title	Amoun or Numbe of Shares		(Instr. 4)	J.1(3)			
Employee Stock Option (Right to	\$31.38	02/02/2004		A		32,419 <sup>(3)</sup>		02/02/2009	5	02/02/2014	Common Stock	32,41	(3)	278,132	o <sup>(4)</sup>	D		

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. The grant is for 4,904 shares of performance-based restricted stock. The restrictions on 100% of the shares may lapse in February 2005 if certain Company financial targets are met. If the restrictions do not lapse in February 2005, the restrictions may lapse in February 2007 if certain performance standards are met.
- 2. The total number of securities beneficially owned includes: (a) 1,875 shares acquired through the Company employee stock purchase program; (b) 41,389 shares acquired by the exercising of vested employee stock options; (c) 1,000 shares purchased on the open market; (d) 21,000 out of an original 35,000 shares of restricted stock granted 9/1/00, of which 7,000 shares are vested; (e) 6,277 shares of performance-based restricted stock granted 6/24/03, of which 0 shares are vested; and (f) the new grant for 4,904 shares.
- $3. \ The new option is for 32,419 \ shares, of which 10,698 \ shares will vest on each of 2/2/05 \ and 2/2/06 \ and 11,023 \ shares will vest on 2/2/07.$
- 4. The total number of derivative securities beneficially owned includes: (a) an employee stock option for 3,055 out of an original 44,444 shares granted 5/5/97, which is fully vested; (b) an employee stock option for 38,888 shares granted 7/24/98, which is fully vested; (c) an employee stock option for 22,222 shares granted 5/7/99, which is fully vested; (e) an employee stock option for 22,222 shares granted 5/7/99, which is fully vested; (e) an employee stock option for 80,000 shares granted 9/1/00, which is fully vested; (f) an employee stock option for 35,723 shares granted 6/24/03, of which 11,789 shares will vest on each of 6/23/05 and 12,145 shares will vest on 6/23/06; and (h) the new option for 35,419 shares.

## Remarks:

<u>Leigh Ann K. Epperson,</u> <u>Attorney in Fact</u>

02/04/2004

\*\* 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.

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