FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP
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	OMB APPE	ROVAL
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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* MCINERNEY THOMAS E				AI	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP [ADS]									5. Relationship of Reporting (Check all applicable) Director			g Pers	10% C)wner	
(Last) (First) (Middle) C/O WELSH, CARSON, ANDERSON & STOWE 320 PARK AVENUE, SUITE 2500					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/27/2004										belov	er (give title w)		Other below)	(specify	
(Street) NEW YO	DRK N	Y 1	.0022 Zip)		4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)							Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person							
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																				
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Date)					Execution Date,				ies Acquired (A) Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4			and Secur		icially d Following	Form:	nership Direct Indirect str. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)			
									Code	v	Amount		A) or D)	Price	Tra		saction(s) r. 3 and 4)			(111341.4)
Common Stock 07/27/					'/2004				S		38,253		D	\$39	\$39.68		182,128		(1)(2)	
	Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)																			
Security or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any			4. Transa Code (8)	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. and 4)				ative deriva rity Secur . 5) Benef Owner Follov Repor Transa	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	Ov Fo Di or (I)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)			
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisa		Expiration Date	Title	or	nber						

Explanation of Responses:

1. The Reporting Person also indirectly beenficially owns (i) 17,790,349 shares held by Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VII, L.P.; (ii) 1,774,942 shares held by Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VII, L.P.; (iii) 523,049 shares held by Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe, VI, L.P.; (iv) 655,555 shares held by WCAS Capital Partners III, L.P.; (v) 268,398 shares held by WCAS Capital Partners II, L.P.; and (vi) 148,766 shares held by WCAS Information Partners, L.P. The Reporting Person is a general partner or managing member of the respective sole general partners of such limited partnerships. 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 each such limited partnership. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficially ownership of any securities, and any proceeds thereof, that exceed his pecuniary interest therein and/or that are not actually distributed to him.

2. The Reporting Person also indirectly beneficially owns 75,526 shares held by the McInerney/Gabrielle Family Limited Partnership. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

Remarks:

<u>Jonathan M. Rather, Attorney-in-Fact</u>

07/28/2004

** 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.

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.