## 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).

## 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 APPROVAL								
OMB Number:	3235-028							

Estimated average burden	
hours per response:	0.5
	Estimated average burden hours per response:

1. Name and Addre WELSH PAT	ss of Reporting Perso <u>RICK J</u>	n*	2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP</u> [ ADS ]		tionship of Reporting all applicable) Director	Perso X	n(s) to Issuer 10% Owner	
C/U WELSH, CARSUN, ANDERSON AND			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/06/2004		Officer (give title below)		Other (specify below)	
320 PARK AVENUE, SUITE 2500			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable				
(Street) NEW YORK	NY	10022		Line)	Form filed by One Form filed by More Person	•	0	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)						

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	(Instr. 3) 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Execution Da (Month/Day/Year) (Month/Day/Year)		Code (Instr.					5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(11150.4)
Common Stock	02/06/2004		J <sup>(1)</sup>		2,290,000	D	(1)	9,204,942	I	By Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VII, L.P. (2)
Common Stock	02/06/2004		J(1)		710,000	D	(1)	2,693,049	I	By Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VI, L.P. <sup>(3)</sup>
Common Stock	02/06/2004		J <sup>(1)</sup>		22,679	Α	(1)	433,919	D <sup>(4)</sup>	

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially C	wned
(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 Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exerc Expiration Da (Month/Day/Y	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			Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			

### Explanation of Responses:

1. Distributions of shares by Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VII, L.P. and Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VI, L.P. to their respective partners.

2. The Reporting Person is one of several general partners of the sole general partner of Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VII, 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 limited partnership. 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.

3. The Reporting Person is one of several general partners of the sole general partner of Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VI, 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 limited partnership. 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.

4. The Reporting Person also indirectly beneficially owns (i) 17,790,349 shares held by Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P.; (ii) 655,555 shares held by WCAS Capital Partners III, L.P.; and (iii) 268,398 shares held by WCAS Capital Partners III, 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 each such limited partnership. 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 M. Rather, Attorneyin-Fact 02/0

02/06/2004

\*\* 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.