Instruction 1(b)

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	STATEMENT OF CH
obligations may continue. See	

## ANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: Estimated average burden 0.5 hours per response:

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						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP [ ADS ]									5. Relationship of Repo (Check all applicable) Director Officer (give ti below)			X 10	0% Ov		
(Last) (First) (Middle)  C/O WELSH, CARSON, ANDERSON AND  STOWE						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/05/2004									Belot	•)		D.	SiOvv)		
320 PARK AVENUE, SUITE 2500						4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)						
(Street) NEW YO			10022		-								X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person								
(City)	(St		Zip)		<u> </u>																
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned  1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transaction  3. Transaction  4. Securities Acquired (A) or  5. Amount of  6. Ownership  7. Nature of																					
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)			Date (Month/Day/Year)		Execution Date,					Disposed Of	osed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 an			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported			Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		irect neficial nership str. 4)		
									Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price		Transacti	nsaction(s) str. 3 and 4)				su. 4)	
Common Stock				11/05/2004				S		148,765	D	\$41.4	43	.3 0		I(1)(3)		Inf Par	WCAS Formation rtners,		
Common Stock				11/05/2				S		400,000	D	\$41.4	43	3 0		I(1)(3)		Ca An &	Welsh, rson, nderson Stowe I, L.P. <sup>(2)</sup>		
	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)	Derivative Conversion Date Execution Date, T Security or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any C					saction e (Instr.  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 Amoun Securiti Underly Derivati Security and 4)	t of ies ving	_		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 Exerc	isable	Expiration Date	Title	of Shares									

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. The Reporting Person also directly beneficially owns 205,669 shares and indirectly beneficially owns 16,160,349 shares held by Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P. and 104 shares held by WCAS Management Corporation. 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 entity. The Reporting Person is a managing member of the sole general partner of Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P. and a controlling stockholder of WCAS Management Corporation. 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 each such limited partnership. The Reporting Person is a general partner of the sole general partner of Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VII, L.P. and a general partner of WCAS Information Partners, 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.
- 3. 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:

Jonathan M. Rather, Attorneyin-Fact

11/09/2004

\*\* 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.