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

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
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| | | | or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|------------|---|-------------------|---|------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Name and Addre | 1 0 | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP</u> [ADS] | | tionship of Reporting all applicable) Director Officer (give title | Perso X | 10% Owner Other (specify | |
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) | _ | below) | | below) | |
| C/O WELSH, O STOWE | LARSON, ANI | JERSON AND | 01/11/2005 | | | | | |
| 320 PARK AVENUE, SUITE 2500 | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Indiv Line) | lividual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable | | | |
| (Street) | | | | X | Form filed by One | Report | ting Person | |
| NEW YORK | NY | 10022 | | | Form filed by More Person | than (| 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) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially 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 | 01/11/2005 | | J ⁽¹⁾ | | 4,000,000 | D | (1) | 12,160,349 | I (2) | By Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P. ⁽²⁾ | |
| Common Stock | 01/11/2005 | | J ⁽¹⁾ | | 255 | A | (1) | 359 | I ⁽²⁾ | By WCAS Management Corporation ⁽²⁾ | |
| Common Stock | 01/11/2005 | | J ⁽¹⁾ | | 6,520 | A | (1) | 703,397 | D | | |

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

| (| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | I. | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|---|---------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|----|--|--|
| | 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. 5. Number of Derivative 8) Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | ative rities ired osed | 6. Date Exerc Expiration Da (Month/Day/Y | 7. Title Amour Securi Underl Deriva Securi and 4) | nt of ties ying | 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. Distribution of shares by Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P. to its partners.

2. 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. 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 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, Attorney-

in-Fact

01/11/2005

** 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.