

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported):  
July 19, 2019

**ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORPORATION**  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

DELAWARE  
(State or Other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

001-15749  
(Commission  
File Number)

31-1429215  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

3075 LOYALTY CIRCLE  
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43219  
(Address and Zip Code of Principal Executive Offices)

(614) 729-4000  
(Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code)

NOT APPLICABLE  
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the Registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class  
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share

Trading symbol  
ADS

Name of each exchange on which registered  
New York Stock Exchange

## **Item 1.02 Termination of a Material Definitive Agreement.**

Alliance Data Systems Corporation (“**Alliance Data**”) issued a redemption notice pursuant to the indenture (the “**2022 Indenture**”) governing its 5.375% senior notes due August 1, 2022 (the “**Senior Notes due 2022**”) to redeem all of the outstanding Senior Notes due 2022. As of June 30, 2019, Alliance Data had \$600.0 million aggregate principal amount of Senior Notes due 2022 outstanding. On July 19, 2019, Alliance Data deposited sufficient funds with the trustee under the 2022 Indenture to redeem all of the outstanding Senior Notes due 2022 on August 1, 2019 (the “**Redemption Date**”) at a redemption price of 101.344% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the Redemption Date (the “**Redemption Price**”). On the date of the deposit of the Redemption Price, the 2022 Indenture was satisfied and discharged. On the Redemption Date, the Redemption Price will be paid to the holders of the Senior Notes due 2022. Alliance Data funded the Redemption Price with proceeds from completion of the sale of its former Epsilon® business to Publicis Groupe, S.A.

## **Item 8.01 Other Events**

On July 19, 2019, the Company issued a press release announcing the commencement of a tender offer to acquire up to \$750 million in aggregate purchase price of its issued and outstanding common stock through a modified “dutch auction” tender offer at a price not greater than \$162.00 nor less than \$144.00 per Share, to the seller in cash, less any applicable withholding taxes and without interest, upon the terms and subject to the conditions described in the Offer to Purchase dated July 19, 2019 and in the related Letter of Transmittal (which together, as they may be amended or supplemented from time to time, constitute the “Offer”), is scheduled to expire one minute after 11:59 P.M. New York City Time, on Thursday, August 15, 2019, unless the Offer is extended.

A copy of the press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

## **Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

### **Exhibit No. Document Description**

[99.1](#) Press Release dated July 19, 2019 announcing the commencement of a tender offer.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Alliance Data Systems Corporation

Date: July 19, 2019

By: /s/ Joseph L. Motes III  
Joseph L. Motes III  
Executive Vice President, Chief  
Administrative Officer, General  
Counsel and Secretary

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLUMBUS, July 19, 2019

**Alliance Data Announces Commencement of Modified Dutch Auction  
Tender Offer to Purchase Shares of its Common Stock for an Aggregate Purchase Price of Not More than  
\$750,000,000**

**NEW YORK, July 19, 2019/The Wall Street Journal/**—Alliance Data Systems Corporation (NYSE: ADS) (“**Alliance Data**” or the “**Company**”), a leading global provider of data-driven marketing and loyalty solutions, today announced that it commenced a “modified Dutch Auction” tender offer to purchase up to \$750,000,000 in aggregate purchase price of its issued and outstanding shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (each, a “**Share**,” and collectively, “**Shares**”), or such lesser aggregate purchase price of Shares as are properly tendered and not properly withdrawn, at a price not greater than \$162.00 nor less than \$144.00 per Share to the seller in cash, less any applicable withholding taxes and without interest. The tender offer is made in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions described in the offer to purchase, the related letter of transmittal and other related materials, as each may be amended or supplemented from time to time.

The closing price of the Shares on the New York Stock Exchange on July 18, 2019, the last full trading day before the commencement of the tender offer, was \$158.00 per Share. The tender offer is scheduled to expire at one (1) minute after 11:59 P.M., New York City time, on August 15, 2019, unless the offer is extended or terminated.

The Company believes that the repurchase of Shares pursuant to the tender offer is consistent with its long-term goal of allocating capital to maximize value for its stockholders and other stakeholders. The offer also allows the Company to return value to its stockholders following the closing of the transaction between the Company and certain of its subsidiaries with Publicis Groupe, S.A., a French société anonyme (“**Publicis**”), and certain subsidiaries of Publicis (together with Publicis, the “**Purchasers**”) pursuant to which the Purchasers acquired the Company’s Epsilon business for a purchase price of \$4.4 billion in cash, subject to certain adjustments specified therein, including for indebtedness, cash, working capital and transaction expenses. Further, the offer also provides a mechanism for completing the Company’s authorized share repurchase program more rapidly that would be possible through open market repurchases. The Company believes that the modified Dutch auction tender offer provides its stockholders with the opportunity to tender all or a portion of their Shares, and thereby receive a return of some or all of their investment in the Company, if they so elect.

The tender offer is not contingent upon any minimum number of Shares being tendered. However, the tender offer is subject to a number of other terms and conditions, which are described in detail in the offer to purchase. Specific instructions and a complete explanation of the terms and conditions of the tender offer are contained in the offer to purchase, the related letter of transmittal and other related materials, which will be mailed to stockholders of record promptly after commencement of the tender offer.

None of the Company, the members of its Board of Directors, the dealer managers, the information agent or the depository makes any recommendation as to whether any stockholder should participate or refrain from participating in the tender offer or as to the purchase price or purchase prices at which stockholders may choose to tender their Shares in the tender offer.

The information agent for the tender offer is D.F. King & Co., Inc. The depository for the tender offer is Computershare Trust Company, N.A. The dealer managers for the tender offer are J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Mizuho Securities USA LLC and SunTrust Robinson Humphrey, Inc. **For all questions relating to the tender offer, please call the information agent, D.F. King & Co., Inc., toll-free at 1-800-283-9185; banks and brokers may call any of the dealer managers, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC at 1 (877) 371-5947, Mizuho Securities USA LLC at 1 (866) 271-7403 or SunTrust Robinson Humphrey, Inc. at 1 (833) 914-0356.**

## **About Alliance Data**

Alliance Data is a leading global provider of data-driven marketing and loyalty solutions serving large, consumer-based industries. The Company creates and deploys customized solutions, enhancing the critical customer marketing experience; the result is measurably changing consumer behavior while driving business growth and profitability for some of today's most recognizable brands. Alliance Data helps its clients create and increase customer loyalty through solutions that engage millions of customers each day across multiple touch points using traditional, digital, mobile and emerging technologies. An S&P 500, FORTUNE 500 and FORTUNE 100 Best Companies to Work For company headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, Alliance Data consists of businesses that together employ over 10,000 associates at more than 50 locations worldwide.

Alliance Data's card services business is a provider of market-leading private label, co-brand, and business credit card programs. LoyaltyOne owns and operates the AIR MILES® Reward Program, Canada's most recognized loyalty program, and Netherlands-based BrandLoyalty, a global provider of tailor-made loyalty programs for grocers. In July 2019 Alliance Data completed the sale of its Epsilon business to Publicis Groupe. More information about Alliance Data can be found at [www.AllianceData.com](http://www.AllianceData.com).

## **Additional Information Regarding the Tender Offer**

This press release is for informational purposes only. This press release is not a recommendation to buy or sell Shares or any other securities of Alliance Data, and it is neither an offer to purchase nor a solicitation of an offer to sell Shares or any other securities of Alliance Data.

Alliance Data will be filing today a tender offer statement on Schedule TO, including an offer to purchase, a related letter of transmittal and other related materials, with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). The tender offer will only be made pursuant to the offer to purchase, the related letter of transmittal and other related materials filed as part of the issuer tender offer statement on Schedule TO, in each case as may be amended or supplemented from time to time. Stockholders should read carefully the offer to purchase, the related letter of transmittal and other related materials because they contain important information, including the various terms of, and conditions to, the tender offer.

Stockholders will be able to obtain a free copy of the tender offer statement on Schedule TO, the offer to purchase, the related letter of transmittal and other related materials that Alliance Data will be filing with the SEC at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). In addition, free copies of these documents may be obtained by contacting D.F. King & Co., Inc., the information agent for the tender offer, toll-free at 1-800-283-9185.

## **Forward-Looking Statements**

The statements in this release relating to matters that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are based upon assumptions of management which are believed to be reasonable at the time made and are subject to significant risks and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially based on factors including, but not limited to: the loss of or reduction in demand for services from, significant clients; increases in net charge-offs in credit card and loan receivables; failure to identify or successfully integrate or disaggregate business acquisitions or divestitures; increases in the cost of doing business, including market interest rates; inability to access the asset-backed securitization funding market; loss of active AIR MILES® Reward Program collectors; disruptions in the airline or travel industries; increased redemptions by AIR MILES® Reward Program collectors; unfavorable fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates; limitations on consumer credit, loyalty or marketing services from new legislative or regulatory actions related to consumer protection and consumer privacy; increases in FDIC, Delaware or Utah regulatory capital requirements for banks; failure to maintain exemption from regulation under the Bank Holding Company Act; loss or disruption, due to cyber attack or other service failures, of data center operations or capacity; and loss of consumer information due to compromised physical or cyber security. The accuracy of our expectations and predictions is also subject to the following risks and uncertainties: (1) our ability to complete the tender offer; (2) the price and time at which we may make any additional Share repurchases following completion of the tender offer and the number of Shares acquired in such repurchases; and (3) changes in general economic, business and political conditions, including the possibility of intensified international hostilities, acts of terrorism, and changes in conditions of the United States or international lending, capital and financing markets. Additional factors that could cause results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements can be found in the "Risk Factors" section of Alliance Data's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018, which can be found at [www.AllianceData.com](http://www.AllianceData.com) on the Investor page and on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

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**Source: Alliance Data Systems Corporation**

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