# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

## FORM SD Specialized Disclosure Report

## ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**DELAWARE** 

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

001-15749

(Commission File Number)

31-1429215

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**7500 DALLAS PARKWAY, SUITE 700 PLANO, TEXAS**(Address of principal executive offices)

75024

(Zip Code)

Joseph L. Motes III Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary (214) 494-3000

(Name and telephone number, including area code, of the person to contact in connection with this report.)

Check the appropriate box to indicate the rule pursuant to which this form is being filed, and provide the period to which the information in this form applies:

Rule 13p-1 under the Securities Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13p-1) for the reporting period from January 1 to December 31, 2018.

#### Section 1 - Conflict Minerals Disclosure.

#### Item 1.01 Conflict Minerals Disclosure and Report.

Alliance Data Systems Corporation (including its consolidated subsidiaries and variable interest entities, the "Company") is a leading global provider of data-driven marketing and loyalty solutions serving large, consumer-based businesses in a variety of industries.

BrandLoyalty Group B.V. ("BrandLoyalty"), a subsidiary of the Company, contracts to manufacture certain products used as rewards in its short-term loyalty programs. Pursuant to Rule 13p-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Rule"), the Company undertook an evaluation of the products that BrandLoyalty contracted to manufacture in calendar year 2018 to ascertain whether any products contained cassiterite, columbite-tantalite, gold, wolframite, or their derivatives, which are currently limited to tin, tantalum, and tungsten (collectively, the "Conflict Minerals"), and, if so, whether Conflict Minerals were necessary to such product's functionality or production.

With the expertise and assistance of BrandLoyalty's Category Management, Sourcing, and Quality departments, the Company developed a comprehensive list of products taken, or available to be taken, into inventory in 2018. From this evaluation, the Company concluded that BrandLoyalty's rewards inventory included approximately 5,700 products in 2018, and that 97 of these products contained Conflict Minerals. Of these 97 products, the Company determined that BrandLoyalty contracted to manufacture 14 products where Conflict Minerals were necessary to the functionality or production of such products ("Covered Products") from five suppliers.

The Company identified tin as the only Conflict Mineral necessary to the functionality or production of the Covered Products and conducted a reasonable country of origin inquiry to ascertain whether the Conflict Minerals used in such products originated in the Democratic Republic of the Congo or an adjoining country (collectively, "Covered Countries") or was from recycled or scrap sources.

Reasonable Country of Origin Inquiry

The Company prepared and provided the five suppliers with a questionnaire based on the Conflict Minerals Reporting Template prepared by the Responsible Business Alliance ("RBA") and the Global eSustainability Initiative ("GeSI"), and 100% of the suppliers responded. Each supplier confirmed that it does not source Conflict Minerals from any of the Covered Countries and that it prohibits its direct suppliers from sourcing Conflict Minerals from Covered Countries as well. The responses also indicated that the five suppliers used six smelters to process their Conflict Minerals, each of which is currently classified as a conformant smelter with the Responsible Minerals Initiative sponsored by the RBA and GeSI, namely: (1) Yunnan Tin Company Limited; (2) PT Timah (Persero) Tbk Mentok; (3) PT Timah (Persero) Tbk Kundur; (4) EM Vinto; (5) Minsur; and (6) Jiangxi New Nanshan Technology Ltd.

Based on this reasonable country of origin inquiry, the Company has no reason to believe that any of the Conflict Minerals necessary to the functionality or production of the products it contracted to manufacture in calendar year 2018 may have originated in the Covered Countries.

The foregoing information is publicly disclosed on the Company's website at <u>www.alliancedata.com</u> on the Investors page under the Governance heading. The information on that website is not incorporated by reference into this Form SD.

Item 1.02 Exhibit.

Not applicable.

Section 2 - Exhibits.

Item 2.01 Exhibits.

Not applicable.

## SIGNATURES

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

Alliance Data Systems Corporation

By:

/s/ Joseph L. Motes III Joseph L. Motes III Senior Vice President,

General Counsel and Secretary

Date: May 23, 2019