FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

| Washington, D | D.C. | 20549 |
|---------------|------|-------|
|---------------|------|-------|

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | | | | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | | | | |
| hours per response: | 0.5 | | | | | | |

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b)

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* MINICUCCI ROBERT A | <u> </u> | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP [ADS] | | | | | | | | | all app | p of Reportion of Reportion of Reportion of Reporting to the contract of the contract of Reportion of Reporti | X | s) to Issuer .0% Owner Other (specify | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|---------------|--------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|-------------------|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O WELSH, CARSON, ANDERSON AND STOWE 320 PARK AVENUE, SUITE 2500 | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/16/2003 | | | | | | | belov | | | pelow) | | | | |
| (Street) NEW YORK NY 10022 | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | e | | | | |
| (City) (State) (Zip) | Darivati | ivo Co | | A | ivo d | Die | nacad a | | v Done | | | | - d | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transactio Date Month/Day/\ | on Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 5 | | | | | (A) or | or 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Follow | | ount of ties cially I Following | 6. Owners Form: Dir (D) or Ind | ect Indirect irect Beneficial | t cial ship |
| | | | | | Code | v | Amount | | (A) or (D) | _{Drice} 1 | | Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | (Instr. 4) | (Instr. 4) |
| Common Stock | 09/16/20 | 03 | | | J ⁽¹⁾ | | 2,290,00 | 00 | D | \$0 | (1) | 15,0 | 632,447 | I | By Welsh, Carsor Anders & Stov VII, L. | n, rson we |
| Common Stock | 09/16/20 | 003 | | | J ⁽¹⁾ | | 710,000 | | D | \$0(1) | | 4,845,550 | | I | Welsh, Carsor Anders & Stov VI, L.I | n, rson we |
| Common Stock | 09/16/20 | 03 | | | J ⁽¹⁾ | | 5,694 | | A | \$0 | \$0 ⁽¹⁾ 128,274 | | | D ⁽⁴⁾ | | |
| Table II - De (e | | | | | - | | | | | | y Ov | vned | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Conversion Date Execution Date Execution Date If any | e Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Execution Date, (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) Brice of Derivative Price of Derivative Price of Derivative Price of Derivative New Price of N | | itle and ount of urities lerlying ivative urity (Ins | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | ative rity | derivative Securities | Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | ship of Indir Benefic (D) Owners rect (Instr. 4 | Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | | | | | |
| Explanation of Responses: | Cod | de V | (A) | | Date Exercisa | | Expiration Date | Title | or Nun of | ount nber ıres | | | | | | |

- 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 II, 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

09/16/2003

** 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.