## 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): September 17, 2020

# 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, OH 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 (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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

Title of each classTrading symbolName of each exchange on which registeredCommon stock, par value \$0.01 per shareADSNew York Stock Exchange

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  $\Box$ 

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. []

### Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.

Alliance Data Systems Corporation ("Alliance Data" or the "Company") is providing the following disclosure, which was included in a preliminary offering memorandum, dated September 17, 2020, in connection with the Notes Offering (described in Item 8.01 below).

## Amendment to the 2017 Credit Agreement

The Company is seeking an amendment to its Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, as amended (the "2017 Credit Agreement") to, among other things, amend certain covenants thereunder (the "Credit Agreement Amendment"). The Credit Agreement Amendment would be conditioned upon the consummation of the Notes Offering, and would require the Company to use certain proceeds from the Notes Offering to prepay term loans outstanding under the 2017 Credit Agreement. While the Company expects to obtain the Credit Agreement Amendment, it can make no assurances that the Credit Agreement Amendment will be obtained.

The information contained in Item 7.01 this report shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

### Item 8.01. Other Events.

On September 17, 2020, the Company issued a press release announcing that it proposes to offer, subject to market conditions and other factors, \$500.0 million aggregate principal amount of Senior Notes due 2026 (the "Notes"). The Notes will be offered to qualified institutional buyers pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and to certain non-U.S. persons in accordance with Regulation S under the Securities Act (the "Notes Offering"). The Company intends to use the net proceeds from the Notes Offering to repay \$493.0 million of the outstanding indebtedness under the term loans provided for in the 2017 Credit Agreement. A copy of this press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

The Notes will not be registered under the Securities Act or any state securities laws and may not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration or an applicable exemption from such registration requirements. The Company is under no obligation, and has no intention, to register the Notes under the Securities Act or any state securities laws in the future. This report is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy any of these securities and shall not constitute an offer, solicitation or sale in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale is unlawful.

## Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit</u> <u>No.</u>	Document Description
<u>99.1</u>	Press Release dated September 17, 2020.
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document).

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

The information included in this Current Report on Form 8-K contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements give Alliance Data's expectations or forecasts of future events and can generally be identified by the use of words such as "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," "intend," "project," "plan," "likely," "may," "should" or other words or phrases of similar import. Similarly, statements that describe Alliance Data's business strategy, outlook, objectives, plans, intentions or goals also are forward-looking statements. Examples of forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements Alliance Data gives with respect to, the proposed Notes Offering, the anticipated use of proceeds in connection therewith, the Credit Agreement Amendment, Alliance Data's anticipated operating or financial results, initiation or completion of strategic initiatives, future dividend declarations, and future economic conditions, including, but not limited to, fluctuation in currency exchange rates, market conditions and COVID-19 impacts related to relief measures for impacted borrowers and depositors, labor shortages due to quarantine, reduction in demand from clients, supply chain disruption for its reward suppliers and disruptions in the airline or travel industries.

Alliance Data believes that its expectations are based on reasonable assumptions. Forward-looking statements, however, are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the projections, anticipated results or other expectations expressed in this release, and no assurances can be given that Alliance Data's expectations will prove to have been correct. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, factors set forth in the Risk Factors section in Alliance Data's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the most recently ended fiscal year, which may be updated in Item 1A of, or elsewhere in, its Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q filed for periods subsequent to such Form 10-K.

Alliance Data's forward-looking statements speak only as of the date made, and it undertakes no obligation, other than as required by applicable law, to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, subsequent events, anticipated or unanticipated circumstances or otherwise.

# 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

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

Date: September 17, 2020



**NEWS RELEASE** 

#### Alliance Data Systems Corporation Announces Proposed Offering of \$500 Million of Senior Notes

**Columbus, Ohio, September 17, 2020** — Alliance Data Systems Corporation (NYSE: ADS) ("*Alliance Data*") announced today that it proposes to offer, subject to market conditions and other factors, \$500.0 million aggregate principal amount of senior notes due 2026 (the "*Notes*"). The Notes will be offered to qualified institutional buyers pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "*Securities Act*"), and to certain non-U.S. persons in accordance with Regulation S under the Securities Act (the "*Notes Offering*"). Alliance Data intends to use the net proceeds from the Notes Offering to repay \$493.0 million of the outstanding indebtedness under the term loans provided for in its existing credit agreement (the "*Credit Agreement*").

The Notes will be general senior unsecured obligations of Alliance Data and will be guaranteed on a senior unsecured basis by each of its existing and future domestic subsidiaries that incurs or in any other manner becomes liable for any debt under Alliance Data's domestic credit facilities, including the Credit Agreement. The Notes will pay interest semi-annually. The interest rate and other terms of the Notes are to be determined by negotiations between Alliance Data and the initial purchasers.

The Notes will not be registered under the Securities Act or any state securities laws and may not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration or an applicable exemption from such registration requirements. Alliance Data is under no obligation, and has no intention, to register the Notes under the Securities Act or any state securities laws in the future.

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy any of these securities and shall not constitute an offer, solicitation or sale in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale is unlawful.

#### **About Alliance Data**

Alliance Data<sup>®</sup> is a leading provider of data-driven marketing, loyalty and payment solutions serving large, consumer-based industries. Alliance Data creates and deploys customized solutions that measurably change consumer behavior while driving business growth and profitability for some of today's most recognizable brands. Alliance Data helps its partners create and increase customer loyalty across multiple touch points using traditional, digital, mobile and emerging technologies. A FORTUNE 500 and S&P MidCap 400 company headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, Alliance Data consists of businesses that together employ over 8,500 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<sup>®</sup> owns and operates the AIR MILES<sup>®</sup> Reward Program, Canada's most recognized loyalty program, and Netherlands-based BrandLoyalty, a global provider of tailor-made loyalty programs for grocers.

#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements give our expectations or forecasts of future events and can generally be identified by the use of words such as "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," "intend," "project," "plan," "likely," "may," "should" or other words or phrases of similar import. Similarly, statements that describe our business strategy, outlook, objectives, plans, intentions or goals also are forward-looking statements. Examples of forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements we make regarding, and the guidance we give with respect to, the proposed Notes Offering, the anticipated use of proceeds in connection therewith, our anticipated operating or financial results, initiation or completion of strategic initiatives, future dividend declarations, and future economic conditions, including, but not limited to, fluctuation in currency exchange rates, market conditions and COVID-19 impacts related to relief measures for impacted borrowers and depositors, labor shortages due to quarantine, reduction in demand from clients, supply chain disruption for our reward suppliers and disruptions in the airline or travel industries.

We believe that our expectations are based on reasonable assumptions. Forward-looking statements, however, are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the projections, anticipated results or other expectations expressed in this release, and no assurances can be given that our expectations will prove to have been correct. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, factors set forth in the Risk Factors section in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the most recently ended fiscal year, which may be updated in Item 1A of, or elsewhere in, our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q filed for periods subsequent to such Form 10-K. Our forward-looking statements speak only as of the date made, and we undertake no obligation, other than as required by applicable law, to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, subsequent events, anticipated or unanticipated circumstances or otherwise.

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