

ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP
Form 4
April 04, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
UTAY ALAN M

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP [ADS]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
17655 WATERVIEW PARKWAY
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
03/31/2006

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
EVP, CAO, Gen. Counsel, Secy

DALLAS, TX 75252-8012

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(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) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | Code | V Amount (A) or (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 03/31/2006 | | A ⁽¹⁾ | 647 A \$ 59,391 | | D | |
| Common Stock | 03/31/2006 | | F ⁽²⁾ | 1,487 D \$ 46.43 57,904 | | D | |
| Common Stock | 04/03/2006 | | S ⁽³⁾ | 2,066 D \$ 46.52 55,838 ⁽⁴⁾ | | D | |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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 control

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number.

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

| 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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reporting Transaction (Instr. 6) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| UTAY ALAN M 17655 WATERVIEW PARKWAY DALLAS, TX 75252-8012 | | | EVP, CAO, Gen. Counsel, Secy | |

Signatures

Leigh Ann K. Epperson, Attorney
in Fact

04/04/2006

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).
- (1) Based on the Company's cash EPS growth as compared to the GAAP EPS growth of the S&P 500, 113% of the performance-based restricted stock award granted on 2/3/05 vested, resulting in an additional 647 shares, for a total of 5,619 shares.
- (2) 1,487 shares were withheld by the Company to satisfy the Reporting Person's tax withholding obligation upon the vesting of restricted stock.

The sale reported in this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the Reporting Person on February 27, 2006. The trading plan was established to sell up to 4,132 shares of the Company's common stock. Portions of the shares may be sold on specified dates or any time the stock achieves certain pre-arranged minimum prices and may take place through April 21, 2006, unless sooner terminated. The Reporting Person will have no control over the timing of any sales under the plan and there can be no assurance that the shares covered by the plan actually will be sold. The Reporting Person entered into the plan for personal tax and financial planning purposes and will continue to have a significant ownership interest in the Company.
- (3) The total number of securities beneficially owned includes: (a) 1,209 shares acquired through the Company employee stock purchase plan; (b) 4,800 out of an original 28,000 shares of restricted stock granted 8/31/01, which are fully vested; (c) 13,211 shares acquired by the exercising of vested employee stock options; (d) 2,066 out of an original 5,619 shares of performance-based restricted stock granted 2/3/05, which are fully vested; (e) 4,460 out of an original 4,972 shares of time-based restricted stock granted 2/3/05, of which 1,128

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shares are vested; (f) 16,210 out of an original 17,778 shares of time-based restricted stock granted 2/3/05, of which 4,358 shares are vested; (g) 6,941 performance-based restricted stock units granted 2/13/06, of which 0 shares are vested; and (h) 6,941 time-based restricted stock units granted 2/13/06, of which 0 shares are vested.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.