ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP

Form 4

October 15, 2004

FORM 4

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Estimated average

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

January 31, Expires: 2005

OMB APPROVAL

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

See Instruction

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

burden hours per response... 0.5

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * BELTZ MICHAEL A			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) 17655 WA	(First) (Middle)	3. Date of (Month/D 10/14/20	•	ansaction			DirectorX Officer (giv below) Executive Vice	e title X Oth	
			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tabl	e I - Non-D	erivative S	ecurit	ties Acq	uired, Disposed o	of, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Dat (Month/Day/Year)	Execution any	med on Date, if Day/Year)	3. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit n(A) or Dis (Instr. 3, 4	sposed	of (D)	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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	10/14/2004			M(1)	15,600	A	\$ 12	65,435	D	
Common	10/14/2004			S (1)	15 600	D	\$	40 835 (2)	D	

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

 $S^{(1)}$

15,600 D

10/14/2004

Stock

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

49,835 (2)

D

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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)			Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 12	10/14/2004		M <u>(1)</u>		15,600	(3)	06/08/2011	Common Stock	15,600

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
BELTZ MICHAEL A				Pracident Utility		
17655 WATERVIEW PARKWAY			Executive Vice President	President Utility		

17655 WATERVIEW PARKWAY DALLAS, TX 75252-8012 secutive Vice President Services

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Signatures

Leigh Ann K. Epperson, Attorney in Fact 10/15/2004

**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).

The sale reported in this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the Reporting Person on July 29, 2004. The trading plan was established to sell up to 44,537 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 beginning on August 3, 2004, and ending on December 31, 2004, 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.
 - The total number of securities beneficially owned includes: (a) 2,212 shares acquired through the Company employee stock purchase program; (b) 20,442 shares acquired by the exercising of vested employee stock options; (c) 1,000 shares purchased on the open market;
- (2) (d) 21,000 out of an original 35,000 shares of restricted stock granted 9/1/00, of which 7,000 shares are vested; (e) 277 out of an original 6,277 shares of performance-based restricted stock granted 6/24/03, which is fully vested; and (f) 4,904 shares of performance-based restricted stock granted 2/2/04, of which 0 shares are vested.
- (3) This is an employee stock option grant that is fully vested.

(4)

Reporting Owners 2

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The total number of derivative securities beneficially owned includes: (a) an employee stock option for 29,166 out of an original 38,888 shares granted 7/24/98, which is fully vested; (b) an employee stock option for 26,515 out of an original 27,777 shares granted 12/1/98, which is fully vested; (c) an employee stock option for 16,668 out of an original 22,222 shares granted 5/7/99, which is fully vested; (d) an employee stock option for 76,999 out of an original 80,000 shares granted 9/1/00, which is fully vested; (e) an employee stock option for 22,448 out of an original 38,048 shares granted 6/8/01, which is fully vested, (f) an employee stock option for 35,723 shares granted 6/24/03, of which 11,789 shares vested on 6/23/04, 11,789 shares will vest on 6/23/05 and 12,145 shares will vest on 6/23/06; and (g) an employee stock option for 32,419 shares granted 2/2/04, of which 10,698 shares will vest on each of 2/2/05 and 2/2/06 and 11,023 shares will vest on 2/2/07.

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.