

ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP
 Form 4
 April 20, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 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).

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 *
FINKELMAN DANIEL P

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)
04/18/2006

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
EVP, Corp Develop & Innovation

DALLAS, TX 75252-8012

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V Amount (A) or (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 04/18/2006 | | M ⁽¹⁾ | 10,000 A \$ 12 | 39,983 | D | |
| Common Stock | 04/18/2006 | | S ⁽¹⁾ | 10,000 D \$ 48 | 29,983 | D | |
| Common Stock | 04/20/2006 | | M ⁽¹⁾ | 10,000 A \$ 12 | 39,983 | D | |
| Common Stock | 04/20/2006 | | S ⁽¹⁾ | 10,000 D \$ 55.75 | 29,983 ⁽²⁾ | 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 number.

SEC 1474
(9-02)

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) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 12 | 04/18/2006 | | M ⁽¹⁾ | 10,000 | <u>(3)</u> 06/07/2011 | Common Stock | 10,000 |
| Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 12 | 04/20/2006 | | M ⁽¹⁾ | 10,000 | <u>(3)</u> 06/07/2011 | Common Stock | 10,000 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| FINKELMAN DANIEL P 17655 WATERVIEW PARKWAY DALLAS, TX 75252-8012 | | | EVP, Corp Develop & Innovation | |

Signatures

Leigh Ann K. Epperson, Attorney
in Fact
Date: 04/20/2006

**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) 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 20,000 shares of the Company's common stock. Portions of the shares may be sold on

Edgar Filing: ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP - Form 4

specified dates or any time the stock achieves certain pre-arranged minimum prices and may take place beginning on February 27, 2006 and ending on July 24, 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.

- The total amount of securities beneficially owned includes: (a) 2,500 shares purchased in 2001; (b) 1,091 shares of restricted stock granted 6/24/03, which are fully vested; (c) 621 shares of restricted stock granted 7/1/04, which are fully vested; (d) 7,500 shares of restricted stock granted 7/14/04, of which 0 shares are vested; (e) 3,424 out of an original 4,995 shares of performance-based restricted stock granted 2/3/05, which are fully vested; (f) 3,883 out of an original 4,420 shares of time-based restricted stock granted 2/3/05, of which 921 shares are vested; (g) 5,482 performance-based restricted stock units granted 2/13/06, of which 0 shares are vested; and (h) 5,482 time-based restricted stock units granted 2/13/06, of which 0 shares are vested.
- (2) This is an employee stock option grant that is fully vested.

- The total number of derivative securities beneficially owned includes: (a) an option for 22,000 out of an original 42,000 shares granted 6/8/01, which is fully vested; (b) an option for 6,208 shares granted 6/24/03, which is fully vested; (c) an option for 3,724 shares granted 7/1/04 which is fully vested; (d) an option for 75,000 shares granted 7/14/04 which will vest on 7/14/07; (e) an option for 12,278 shares granted on 2/3/05, of which 4,051 shares are fully vested, 4,051 shares will vest on 2/3/07 and 4,176 shares will vest on 2/3/08; and (f) an option for 13,083 shares granted 2/13/06, of which 4,317 shares will vest on each of 2/13/07 and 2/13/08 and 4,449 shares will vest on 2/13/09.
- (4)

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.