

GILLIGAN EDWARD P  
Form 4  
November 10, 2004

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL  
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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 \*  
GILLIGAN EDWARD P  
  
(Last) (First) (Middle)  
  
AMERICAN EXPRESS  
TOWERAMERICAN EXPRESS  
T, 3 WORLD FINANCIAL  
CENTER3 WORLD FINANCIA

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
AMERICAN EXPRESS CO [AXP]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
  
(Check all applicable)  
  
 Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Member, Global Leadership Team

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
11/08/2004

(Street)  
  
NEW YORK, NY 10285-5003  
  
(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)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
Common Shares	11/08/2004	11/08/2004	M	90,000	A \$ 27.458	261,724	D
Common Shares	11/08/2004	11/08/2004	F <sup>(1)</sup>	63,705	D \$ 54.805	198,019	D
Common Shares						1,330	I By ISP Trust <sup>(2)</sup>

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 SEC 1474 (9-02)

required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control 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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code V (A) (D)		Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 27.458	11/08/2004	11/08/2004	M	90,000	09/28/2003 <sup>(3)</sup> 09/27/2008	Common Shares
Employee stock option (right to buy)	\$ 54.805	11/08/2004	11/08/2004	A <sup>(4)</sup>	63,705	05/08/2005 09/27/2008	Common Shares

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
GILLIGAN EDWARD P AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER AMERICAN EXPRESS T 3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER 3 WORLD FINANCIA NEW YORK, NY 10285-5003			Member, Global Leadership Team	

## Signatures

Edward P. Gilligan  
11/09/2004  
\*\*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).

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- (1) The reported disposition represents the surrender of shares to cover the cost of exercise and tax obligations arising from the exercise of employee stock options.
- (2) Shares held in reporting person's account under the Company's Incentive Savings Plan as of November 8, 2004. This plan uses unit accounting, and the number of shares that a participant is deemed to hold varies with the unit price of the Company pooled stock fund.
- (3) 84,000 of the shares exercised became exercisable on 9/28/2003; the balance became exercisable on 9/28/2004.
- (4) Employee stock options granted pursuant to a reload feature of the 1998 Incentive Compensation Plan.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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