

ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP
 Form 4
 February 24, 2011

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 *
 HEFFERNAN EDWARD J

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)
 7500 DALLAS PARKWAY, SUITE 700
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 02/22/2011

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 President and CEO

PLANO, TX 75024

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|--------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 02/22/2011 | | A ⁽¹⁾ | 2,583 | A | \$ 195,874 | D | |
| Common Stock | 02/22/2011 | | F ⁽²⁾ | 15,038 | D | \$ 77.2 | 180,836 | D |
| Common Stock | 02/23/2011 | | F ⁽²⁾ | 6,352 | D | \$ 76.05 | 174,484 | <u>(3)</u> D |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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) | 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 Owned Beneficially (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| HEFFERNAN EDWARD J 7500 DALLAS PARKWAY, SUITE 700 PLANO, TX 75024 | X | | President and CEO | |

Signatures

Cynthia L. Hageman, Attorney
in Fact 02/24/2011

**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 in 2010, 107% of the original award of 36,928 performance-based restricted stock units granted 2/22/10 were earned, resulting in an additional 2,583 units, for a total of 39,511 units. The restrictions will lapse with respect to 13,170 units on 2/22/12 and with respect to 13,171 units on 2/22/13, subject to continued employment by the Reporting Person on the remaining vesting dates.
- (2) Shares withheld by the Company to satisfy the Reporting Person's tax withholding obligation upon the vesting of restricted stock units.
- (3) The total number of securities beneficially owned includes: (a) 124,005 unrestricted shares; (b) 17,952 unvested units from an award of 52,800 performance-based restricted stock units granted 2/23/09; (c) 6,186 unvested units from an award of 9,232 time-based restricted stock units granted 2/22/10; and (d) 26,341 unvested units from an award of 39,511 performance-based restricted stock units granted 2/22/10.

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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