

ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP  
 Form 4  
 April 27, 2006

**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 \*  
**WELSH PATRICK 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)  
**C/O WELSH, CARSON,  
 ANDERSON AND STOWE, 320  
 PARK AVENUE, SUITE 2500**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**04/27/2006**

\_\_\_\_ Director  10% Owner  
 \_\_\_\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)

(Street)  
**NEW YORK, NY 10022**

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) |           |       |   |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|-----------|-------|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount  | (A) or (D)   | Price   |           |       |   |
| Common Stock                    | 04/27/2006                           |  | J(1)                           |   | 5,000,000   | D  | 11  | 7,160,349 | I (2) | By Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P. (2) |
| Common Stock                    | 04/27/2006                           |  | J(1)                           |   | 319   | A  | 11  | 678       | I (2) | By WCAS Management Corporation (2)                |
|                                 | 04/27/2006                           |  | J(1)                           |   | 8,153   | A  | 11  | 322,820   | D     |   |

Common  
Stock

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.**

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(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) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported 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

WELSH PATRICK J  
C/O WELSH, CARSON, ANDERSON AND STOWE  
320 PARK AVENUE, SUITE 2500  
NEW YORK, NY 10022

X

## Signatures

Jonathan M. Rather,  
Attorney-in-Fact

04/27/2006

\*\*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) Distribution of shares by Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P. to its partners.

(2) The Reporting Person is a managing member of the sole general partner of Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P. and a controlling stockholder of WCAS Management Corporation. Pursuant to Instruction (4)(b)(iv) of Form 4, the Reporting Person has elected to report as indirectly beneficially owned the entire number of securities beneficially owned by each such entity. The Reporting Person disclaims

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beneficial ownership of any securities, and any proceeds thereof, that exceed his pecuniary interest therein and/or that are not actually distributed to him.

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.