ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP

Form 4 May 25, 2006

FORM 4

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Expires: January 31, 2005
Estimated average

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 * SZEFTEL IVAN M | | | 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 WATER | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/23/2006 | Director 10% Owner X Officer (give titleX Other (specify below) Executive Vice President / President Retail Credit Svcs. | | | |
| | (Street) | | 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 | | | |
| DALLAS, TX 75252-8012 | | | | Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | |

| (City) | (State) | Tabl | e I - Non-D | Perivative S | Securi | ties Acqu | ired, Disposed of | , or Beneficiall | y Owned |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|--------------|------------------|-------------|--|---|---|
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) | | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| | | | Code V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | (Instr. 4) | |
| Common Stock | 05/23/2006 | | M | 15,000 | A | \$ 12 | 98,964 | D | |
| Common Stock | 05/23/2006 | | S | 15,000 | D | \$ 54.01 | 83,964 | D | |
| Common Stock | 05/24/2006 | | M | 4,000 | A | \$ 12 | 87,964 | D | |
| Common Stock | 05/24/2006 | | S | 4,000 | D | \$ 54.25 | 83,964 | 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)

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of orDerivative 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) | |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|--------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 12 | 05/23/2006 | | M | 15,000 | <u>(1)</u> | 06/07/2011 | Common Stock | 15,000 |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 12 | 05/24/2006 | | M | 4,000 | <u>(1)</u> | 06/07/2011 | Common Stock | 4,000 |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SZEFTEL IVAN M 17655 WATERVIEW PARKWAY DALLAS, TX 75252-8012

Executive Vice President President Retail Credit Svcs.

Signatures

Leigh Ann K. Epperson, Attorney o5/25/2006 in Fact

**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) This is an employee stock option grant that is fully vested.

Reporting Owners 2

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- The total number of derivative securities beneficially owned includes: (a) an option for 77,001 out of an original 80,000 shares granted 9/1/00, which is fully vested; (b) an option for 19,048 out of an original 38,048 shares granted 6/8/01, which is fully vested; (c) an option for 42,528 shares granted 6/24/03, of which 28,068 shares are fully vested and 14,460 shares will vest on 6/23/06; (d) an option for
- (2) 42,103 shares granted 2/2/04, of which 27,788 shares are fully vested and 14,315 shares will vest on 2/2/07; (e) an option for 27,113 shares granted 2/3/05, of which 8,947 shares vested on 2/3/06, 8,947 shares will vest on 2/3/07 and 9,219 shares will vest on 2/3/08; and (f) an option for 29,859 shares granted 2/13/06, of which 9,853 shares will vest on each of 2/13/07 and 2/13/08 and 10,153 shares will vest on 2/13/09.

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.