TCW GROUP INC Form SC 13G/A February 10, 2004

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 20549

	SCHEDULE 13G			
Under the Se	ecurities Exchange Act o	f 1934		
	(Amendment No. 5)*			
Net	twork Appliance, Inc.			
	(Name of Issuer)			
Common Stock				
(Title of Class of Securities)				
64120L104				
(CUSIP Number)				
12/31/2003				
(Date of Event Whic	ch Requires Filing of th	is Statement)		
Check the appropriate box to desis filed:	signate the rule pursuan	t to which this Schedule		
/X/ Rule 13d-1(b)				
/ / Rule 13d-1(c)				
/ / Rule 13d-1(d)				
* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page. The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, SEE the NOTES).				
CUSIP No. 64120L104	13G	Page 2 of 7 Pages		

1. NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)				
The TCW Group, Inc., on behalf of the TCW Business Unit				
		BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*	(a) / / (b) /X/	
3. SEC USE C				
4. CITIZENSH	IIP OR PLACE OF	F ORGANIZATION		
Ne	vada corporat:	ion		
	UMBER OF SHARES	5. SOLE VOTING POWER	-0-	
	6. SHARED VOTING POWER	52,809,130		
	7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER	-0-		
		8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER	60,330,067	
9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 60,330,067				
10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* / /				
		ESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) Onse to Item 4)		
	REPORTING PERS	SON*(see instructions)		
*SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT				
		Page	3 of 7 Pages	
Item 1(a).	Name of Issue	er:		
	Network Appliance, Inc.			
Item 1(b).	. Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:			
	495 East Java Sunnyvale, CA			
Item 2(a). Item 2(b). Item 2(c).	Name of Person Address of Particles (Citizenship:	ons Filing: rincipal Business Office, or if None, Resi	idence:	
		p, Inc., on behalf of the TCW Business Uniqueroa Street	it	

Los Angeles, CA 90017 (Nevada Corporation)

Item 2(d). Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock

Item 2(e). CUSIP Number:

64120L104

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- Item 3. If This Statement Is Filed Pursuant to Sections 240.13d-1(b), or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), Check Whether the Person Filing is a:
 - (a) / Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 780).
 - (b) / Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).
 - (c) / Insurance company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78c).
 - (d) // Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8).
 - (e) // An investment adviser in accordance with Section 240.13d-1 (b) (1) (ii) (E).
 - (f) / An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F).
 - (g) /X/ A parent holding company or control person in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G).

(SEE Item 7)

The TCW Group, Inc., on behalf of the TCW Business Unit

- (h) / A savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);
- (i) / A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3);
- (j) // Group, in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

If this statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(c), check this box. / /

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Item 4. Ownership **

The TCW Group, Inc., on behalf of the Business Unit ***

- (a) Amount beneficially owned: 60,330,067
- (b) Percent of class: 17.5%
- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
 - (i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote: none
 - (ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 52,809,130
 - (iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: none
 - (iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the

disposition of: 60,330,067

** The filing of this Schedule 13G shall not be construed as an admission that the reporting person or any of its affiliates is, for the purposes of Section 13(d) or 13(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the beneficial owner of any securities covered by this Schedule 13G. In addition, the filing of this Schedule 13G shall not be construed as an admission that the reporting person or any of its affiliates is the beneficial owner of any securities covered by this Schedule 13G for any other purposes than Section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

*** See Exhibit A

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Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following $/\ /$.

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

Various persons other than as described in Item 4 have the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the Common Stock of Network Appliance, Inc.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company.

SEE Exhibit A.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

Not applicable. SEE Exhibit A.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not applicable.

Item 10. Certification.

Because this statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b), the following certification is included:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

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SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated this 4th day of February, 2004.

The TCW Group, Inc., on behalf of the TCW Business Unit

By: /s/ Linda D. Barker
----Linda D. Barker
Authorized Signatory