

ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP  
 Form 5  
 January 11, 2005

**FORM 5**

**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).  
 Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

**ANNUAL 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 MATTHEWS JAMES R

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)

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/31/2004

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

C/O WELSH, CARSON, ANDERSON AND STOWE, 320 PARK AVENUE, SUITE 2500

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

NEW YORK, NY 10022

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 at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock                    | 12/23/2004                           |  | G                              | 836 D \$ 0 0  |  | D (1)  |                                   |

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

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SEC 2270 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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| 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. |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|----|
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|----|

|  |  |  |  |  |  | Date Exercisable (A) (D) | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--------------------------|-----------------|-------|----------------------------|
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--------------------------|-----------------|-------|----------------------------|

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |         |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| MATTHEWS JAMES R<br>C/O WELSH, CARSON, ANDERSON AND STOWE<br>320 PARK AVENUE, SUITE 2500<br>NEW YORK, NY 10022 | Â             | Â X       | Â       | Â     |

## Signatures

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Jonathan M. Rather,<br>Attorney-in-Fact | 01/11/2005 |
| **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).

As of the date of this Statement, the Reporting Person also indirectly beneficially owns 12,160,349 shares held by Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe VIII, L.P. The Reporting Person is a managing member of the sole general partner of Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe, VIII, L.P. Pursuant to Instruction (4)(b)(iv) of Form 5, the Reporting Person has elected to report as indirectly beneficially owned the entire number of securities beneficially owned by such entity. The Reporting Person disclaims 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 provided 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.