

ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP
 Form 4
 September 24, 2012

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 *
BALLOU ROGER H

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 09/21/2012

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

(Street)
 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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | |
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | |
| Common Stock | 09/21/2012 | | M | A | 6,208 | \$ 24.03 | 15,671 D |
| Common Stock | 09/21/2012 | | S | D | 1,060 | \$ 143.65 | 14,611 ⁽¹⁾ D |

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

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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. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option Grant (Right to Buy) | \$ 24.03 | 09/21/2012 | | M | 6,208 | (2) 06/23/2013 | Common Stock | 6,208 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| BALLOU ROGER H 7500 DALLAS PARKWAY, SUITE 700 PLANO, TX 75024 | X | | | |

Signatures

Cynthia L. Hageman, Attorney
in Fact
Date: 09/24/2012

**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).

- The total amount of securities beneficially owned includes: (a) 5,934 unrestricted shares; (b) 1,876 unvested restricted stock units granted 7/1/08; (c) 2,145 unvested restricted stock units granted 7/1/09; (d) 1,367 unvested restricted stock units granted 6/30/10; (e) 1,915 unvested restricted stock units granted 6/30/11; and (f) 1,374 unvested restricted stock units granted 6/29/12.
- (1) This is an employee stock option grant that is fully vested.

- The total number of derivative securities beneficially owned includes: (a) an option for 3,724 shares granted 7/1/04, which is fully vested; (3) (b) an option for 3,547 shares granted 6/10/05, which is fully vested; and (c) an option for 2,512 shares granted 6/12/06, which is fully vested.

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.