HORN CHARLES L

Form 4

February 20, 2018

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

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response...

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

obligations may continue.

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

See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * HORN CHARLES L

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

ALLIANCE DATA SYSTEMS CORP [ADS]

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last)

(Middle) (First)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

Director 10% Owner _X__ Officer (give title Other (specify

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

below) EVP & Chief Financial Officer

7500 DALLAS PARKWAY, SUITE 02/15/2018

(Street)

700

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 Form filed by More than One Reporting

PLANO, TX 75024

| (City) | (State) | (Zip) Tab | le I - Non-l | Derivativo | e Secu | rities 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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Secur on(A) or D (Instr. 3. | 4 and (A) or | ed of (D) | 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) |
| Common Stock | 02/15/2018 | | A(1) | 1,542 | A | <u>(1)</u> | 28,022 | D | |
| Common Stock | 02/15/2018 | | A(2) | 3,085 | A | <u>(2)</u> | 31,107 | D | |
| Common Stock | 02/15/2018 | | A(3) | 3,085 | A | <u>(3)</u> | 34,192 | D | |
| Common Stock | 02/15/2018 | | A(4) | 851 | A | <u>(4)</u> | 35,043 | D | |
| Common Stock | 02/15/2018 | | F(5) | 706 | D | \$ 243.99 | 33,372 (6) (7) | D | |

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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.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans

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

| 1. Title of | 2. | 3. Transaction Date | 3A. Deemed | 4. | 5 | 5. | 6. Date Exerc | cisable and | 7. Titl | le and | 8. Price of |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------|--------------|------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------|----------|-------------|
| Derivative | Conversion | (Month/Day/Year) | Execution Date, if | Transa | ection | Number | Expiration D | ate | Amou | ınt of | Derivative |
| Security | or Exercise | | any | Code | (| of | (Month/Day/ | Year) | Under | lying | Security |
| (Instr. 3) | Price of | | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. | 8) I | Derivative | e | | Secur | ities | (Instr. 5) |
| | Derivative | | | | 5 | Securities | | | (Instr. | 3 and 4) | |
| | Security | | | | I | Acquired | | | | | |
| | | | | | (| (A) or | | | | | |
| | | | | | I | Disposed | | | | | |
| | | | | | C | of (D) | | | | | |
| | | | | | (| (Instr. 3, | | | | | |
| | | | | | 4 | 4, and 5) | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | A | |
| | | | | | | | | | | Amount | |
| | | | | G 1 | | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | | or | |
| | | | | | | | | | | Number | |
| | | | | | 3 7 / | (A) (D) | | | | of | |
| | | | | Code | V (| (A) (D) | | | | Shares | |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

HORN CHARLES L 7500 DALLAS PARKWAY, SUITE 700 PLANO, TX 75024 EVP & Chief Financial Officer

Signatures

Cynthia L. Hageman, Attorney in Fact

02/20/2018

**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 new grant is for 1,542 shares of common stock represented by time-based restricted stock units. The restrictions will lapse on 508 units on 2/15/19, on 509 units on 2/18/20 and on 525 units on 2/16/21, subject to continued employment by the Reporting Person on the vesting dates.
- The new grant is for 3,085 shares of common stock represented by performance-based restricted stock units, which may be adjusted up or down at the time the performance restriction lapses. The restriction may lapse with respect to 33% of such shares on each of 2/15/19 and 2/18/20 and with respect to 34% of such shares on 2/16/21 contingent on meeting an EBT metric for 2018 and subject to continued employment by the Reporting Person on the vesting dates.
- (3) The new grant is for 3,085 shares of common stock represented by performance-based restricted stock units, which may be adjusted up or down at the time the performance restriction lapses. The restriction may lapse with respect to 100% of such shares on 2/18/20

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- contingent on meeting a relative total shareholder return metric for 2018 and 2019 and subject to continued employment by the Reporting Person on the vesting dates.
- Based on the Company's EBT performance in 2017, 150% of the original award of 1,702 performance-based restricted stock units granted 2/15/17 were earned, resulting in an additional 851 units, for a total of 2,553 units. The restrictions will lapse with respect to 1,276 units on 2/15/19, subject to continued employment by the Reporting Person on the remaining vesting dates.
- (5) Shares withheld by the Company to satisfy the Reporting Person's tax withholding obligation upon the vesting of restricted stock units.
 - The total number of securities beneficially owned includes: (a) 14,107 unrestricted shares; (b) 373 unvested units from an award of 1,095 time-based restricted stock units granted 2/17/15; (c) 1,491 unvested units from an award of 4,384 performance-based restricted stock units granted 2/17/15; (d) 960 unvested units from an award of 1,434 time-based restricted stock units granted 2/16/16; (e) 1,711
- unvested units from an award of 2,553 performance-based restricted stock units granted 2/16/16; (f) 1,068 unvested units from an award of 1,593 time-based restricted stock units granted 2/15/17; (g) 1,488 unvested units from an award of 2,221 performance-based restricted stock units granted 2/15/17; (i) 3,186 unvested performance-based restricted stock units granted 2/15/17; (i) 1,276 unvested units from an award of 2,553 performance-based restricted stock units granted 2/15/17; (j) the new grant for 1,542 time-based restricted stock units;
- Based on the Company's EBT performance in 2017, 69.7% of the original award of 3,186 performance-based restricted stock units granted 2/15/17, or 2,221 units, were earned. The restrictions will lapse with respect to 733 units on 2/15/19 and with respect to 755 units on 2/18/20, subject to continued employment by the Reporting Person on the remaining vesting dates.

Remarks:

(6) Continued from above: (k) the new grant for 3,085 performance-based restricted stock units; and (l) the new grant for 3,080 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.