FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington,	D.C.	20549
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STATEMENT	OF CHANGES	IN BENEFICIAL	OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Last) 1170 PEA	CH WES		Middle)		3. D	Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ACUITY BRANDS INC [AYI] Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/30/2004									5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title below) Other (spec below) SVP, Audit & Risk Mgmt.				owner (specify
SUITE 24 (Street) ATLANT (City)	TA GA		30309 Zip)		4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									i. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ine) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person				
	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																		
Date				n/Day/Year) i		2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		Transaction Disposed Code (Instr. 5)		ities Acquired (A) d Of (D) (Instr. 3,			nd Secu Bene	nount of rities ficially ed Following	Form (D) or	nership : Direct r Indirect str. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
									Code	v	Amount		A) or D)	Price	Tran	saction(s) . 3 and 4)			(,
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾			09/30	9/30/2004				A		2,500	2)	A	\$0	(2)	34,447		D		
Common Stock																619		I	by 401(k)
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)	ve Conversion Date Execution Date, or Exercise (Month/Day/Year)			ransaction of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		ative rities ired osed	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) Date Exercisable Expiration Date			7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) Amoun or Numbe of Title Shares		ount nber	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)		O Fe Di Oi (I)	0. bwnership orm: iriect (D) r Indirect) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. The total direct shares owned includes 12,115 time-vesting restricted shares.
- 2. Issued upon the achievement of performance targets set forth in a Restricted Stock Award Agreement dated December 18, 2002, under the Company's Long-Term Incentive Plan. Shares remain restricted until November 30, 2005, and at that time are payable one-third in cash and two-thirds in shares.

Wesley E. Wittich

10/04/2004

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- * 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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 Number.