

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

[ ] 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  
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(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol		6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
WILLIAMS NEIL			ACUITY BRANDS, INC. (AYI)		[X] Director [ ] 10% Owner		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (voluntary)		4. Statement for Month/Day/Year		[ ] Officer (give title below) [ ] Other (specify below)
C/O ACUITY BRANDS, INC. 1170 PEACHTREE STREET, NE SUITE 2400					03/03/2003		
(Street)					5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)		7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
ATLANTA GEORGIA 30309							[X] 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 (MM/DD/YY)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (MM/DD/YY)	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 Month (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
COMMON STOCK							1,000	D		

Form 4 (Continued)

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 (MM/DD/YY)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (MM/DD/YY)	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 (MM/DD/YY)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date
DIRECTOR STOCK OPTIONS									
STOCK UNITS (FN 2)	1 for 1	03/03/03	03/03/03	A		463 (FN 2)		(FN 2)	(FN 2)

7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Common Stock			15,010 (FN 1)	D	
Common Stock	463	\$12.62	9,970 (FN 2)	D	

Explanation of Responses:

FN 1. Represents the total number of Director Stock Options held at various exercise prices and grant dates as of the Reporting Date.

FN 2. Stock Units are accrued under the Issuer's Nonemployee Directors' Deferred Stock Unit Plan and are payable in cash upon retirement. Accruals include an annual grant, required and elective deferral of director fees and reinvestment of dividend equivalents. During the Reporting Period, deferral of fees paid resulted in an increase of 463 units.

/s/ Jill A. Gilmer, as Power  
of Attorney for Neil Williams

03/05/03

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\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

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Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially 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.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints each of Kenyon W. Murphy, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Helen D. Haines, Vice President and Secretary, and Jill A. Gilmer, Assistant Secretary, signing singly, the undersigned's true and lawful attorney-in-fact to:

1. execute for and on behalf of the undersigned, in the undersigned's capacity as an officer and/or director of Acuity Brands, Inc. (the "Company"), Forms 3, 4, and 5 in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules thereunder;
2. do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to complete and execute any such Form 3, 4, or 5, complete and execute any amendment or amendments thereto, and timely file such form with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any stock exchange or similar authority; and
3. take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in such attorney-in-fact's discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary, or proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact, or such attorney-in-fact's substitute or substitutes, shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorneys-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, are not assuming, nor is the Company assuming, any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 3, 4, and 5 with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in securities issued by the Company, unless earlier revoked by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to the foregoing attorneys-in-fact.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 20th day of August, 2002.

/s/ Neil Williams

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Signature

Neil Williams

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Print Name