FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL         |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:          | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average bu | urden     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

0.5

hours per response:

| 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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* WILLIAMS NEIL     |  |  |   |      | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol ACUITY BRANDS INC [ AYI ] |     |  |  |                    |   |   | heck all app  | licable)<br>tor                  | Person(s) to I  | Owner   |
|--|--|--|---|------|--|-----|--|--|--------------------|---|---|---|----------------------------------|---|---|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O ACUITY BRANDS, INC.            |  |  |   |      | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/01/2006                  |     |  |  |                    |   |   | Office<br>below                                     | er (give title<br>v)             | Other<br>below  | (specify<br>)   |
| 1170 PEACHTREE STREET, NESUITE 2400                        |  |  |   |      | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                     |     |  |  |                    |   | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) |   |                                  |   |   |
| (Street) ATLANT  | ΓA GA  | <b>A</b> 3                                 | 30309   | _    |  |     |  |  |                    |   |   | X Form  | filed by More                    | Reporting Persethan One Rep                                       |   |
| (City)   | (St  | ate) (                                     | Zip)  |      |  |     |  |  |                    |   |   |   |                                  |   |   |
|  | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned   |  |   |      |  |     |  |  |                    |   |   |   |                                  |   |   |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transac Date (Month/Da |  |  |   | е    | Execution Dat  |     |  | Code (Instr. 5)  |                    |   | red (A) or<br>estr. 3, 4 ar                                 | Benefic   | ies Folicially (D) Following (I) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|  |  |  |   |      |  |     |  | Code   | / Amou             | nt (A) (D)  | or Price  | Tranca  | ction(s)                         |   | (   |
|  | Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |  |   |      |  |     |  |  |                    |   |   |   |                                  |   |   |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)        | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security  | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Code | Transaction Code (Instr.   |     | mber<br>rative<br>rities<br>ired<br>r<br>osed<br>)<br>: 3, 4 | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                    | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Securit<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |   | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) |                                  | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)                             |
|  |  |  |   | Code | v  | (A) | (D)  | Date<br>Exercisable  | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares                      |   |                                  |   |   |
| Stock<br>Units <sup>(1)</sup>                              | (2)  | 08/01/2006                                 |   | A    |  | 204 |  | (3)  | (3)                | Common<br>Stock   | 204   | \$42.76   | 13,924                           | D   |   |

## Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Stock Units are accrued under the Issuer's Nonemployee Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan (formerly known as the Nonemployee Directors' Stock Unit Plan) and are payable in shares upon retirement in either lump sum or five annual installments. Accruals include required and elective deferral of director fees. During the Reporting Period, fees paid to the Reporting Person resulted in an increase in the number of units held.
- 2. 1-for-1
- 3. Stock Units issued pursuant to the Plan are payable in common shares upon retirement in either a lump sum or five annual installments.

By: Jill A. Gilmer, under
Power of Attorney For: Neil

**Williams** 

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Dat

08/03/2006

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

- $^{\star}$  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.