

HITZ DAVID

Form 4

December 29, 2005

FORM 4
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 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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31,
2005
Estimated average
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
HITZ DAVID

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol
NETWORK APPLIANCE INC
[NTAP]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

495 EAST JAVA DRIVE

(Street)

SUNNYVALE, CA 94089

(City) (State) (Zip)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/28/2005

4. If Amendment, Date Original
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
____X____ Officer (give title ____ Other (specify
below) below)
Executive Vice President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
____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

| 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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--------|-------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 12/28/2005 | | S <u>(1)</u> | | 25,000 | D \$ 27.6945 <u>(2)</u> | 4,577,250 | I | by Trust <u>2</u> <u>(3)</u> |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 26,273 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 200 | I | by Trust <u>(4)</u> |

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**

SEC 1474
(9-02)

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 10) |
|---|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships |
|--|----------------------------------|
| | Director 10% Owner Officer Other |
| HITZ DAVID 495 EAST JAVA DRIVE SUNNYVALE, CA 94089 | Executive Vice President |

Signatures

By: Janice Mahoney by Power of Attorney For: David
Hitz

12/29/2005

____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).

(1) The sale(s) reported in this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on April 1, 2005.

(2) The sale prices for the reported transaction were in a range of \$27.565 to \$27.87 per share.

Shares held in trust by David Hitz, Trustee to the Sundance Trust UTA 1/17/02. The reporting person continues to report beneficial ownership of all the issuers common stock held by the trust but disclaims beneficial ownership except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

Shares held in trust by The XYZZY 2000 Charitable Remainder Trust, David Hitz, Trustee. The reporting person continues to report beneficial ownership of all the issuers common stock held by the trust but disclaims beneficial ownership except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein.

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

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