

NETWORK APPLIANCE INC

Form 4

December 21, 2004

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
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
LAU JAMES K

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)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/17/2004

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
____X____ Officer (give title below) ____ Other (specify below)
Executive VP, Corp Development

SUNNYVALE, CA 94089

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
Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

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 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	12/17/2004		S		40,000	D	\$ 34.25	4,611,573	I	by Trust3 (1)
Common Stock								2,355	D	
Common Stock								69,000	I	by GRAT1 (2)
Common Stock								69,000	I	by GRAT2 (3)
Common Stock								16,000	I	by Trust1 (4)

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Common Stock 16,000 I by Trust2 (5)

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

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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. 3)
				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
LAU JAMES K 495 EAST JAVA DRIVE SUNNYVALE, CA 94089	Executive VP, Corp Development

Signatures

By: Janice Mahoney by Power of Attorney For: James K. Lau 12/21/2004

__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) Shares held in trust by James K. Lau and Katherine S. Lau, trustees to the KNSK Trust UDT 9/18/00
- (2) Shares held in grantor retained annuity trust by Nextgen-K1 Trust U/I DTD Jan 30 2003, James K. Lau, Trustee
- (3) Shares held in grantor retained annuity trust by Nextgen-J1 Trust U/I DTD Jan 30 2003, James K. Lau, Trustee
- (4)

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Shares held in trust by Koon H. Lau, trustee to The Jason A. Lau 1998 Trust. Reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares.

- (5) Shares held in trust by Koon H. Lau, trustee to The Jonathan A. Lau 1998 Trust. Reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares.

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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