

HITZ DAVID

Form 4

April 24, 2006

**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  
burden hours per  
response... 0.5

(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)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
04/20/2006

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)

Executive Vice President

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 (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)
Common Stock	04/20/2006		M <sup>(1)</sup>	9,000 A \$ 4.508	4,338,064	I	by Trust <sup>2</sup> (2)
Common Stock	04/20/2006		M <sup>(1)</sup>	5,000 A \$ 11.25	4,343,064	I	by Trust <sup>2</sup> (2)
Common Stock	04/20/2006		S <sup>(1)</sup>	25,000 D \$ 37.9283 (3)	4,318,064	I	by Trust <sup>2</sup> (2)
Common Stock					26,273	D	
Common Stock					200	I	by Trust <sup>2</sup> (4)

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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 displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 4.508	04/20/2006		M <sup>(1)</sup>	9,000	<sup>(5)</sup> 04/30/2008	Common Stock	9,000
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 11.25	04/20/2006		M <sup>(1)</sup>	5,000	<sup>(5)</sup> 05/24/2009	Common Stock	5,000

## 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

04/24/2006

\*\*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 option exercises and sales were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on March 17, 2006
- (2) 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

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interest therein.

- (3) The sale prices for the reported transaction were in a range of \$37.725 to \$38.45 per share.

Shares held in trust by The XYZZY 2000 Charitable Remainder Trust, David Hitz, Trustee. The reporting person continues to report

- (4) 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.
- (5) Option vests with respect to 25% of the option shares on the first anniversary of the grant date and the balance in a series of equal monthly installments over the next 36 months of service thereafter.

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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