

AMERICAN EXPRESS CO
Form 4
January 25, 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
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
HAYES JOHN D

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**3 WORLD FINANCIAL
CENTER, 200 VESEY ST,
AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER**

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10285

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol

AMERICAN EXPRESS CO [AXP]

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

01/23/2006

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
X Officer (give title below) ____ Other (specify below)

EVP, Advertising

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. 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	01/23/2006		A ⁽¹⁾	1,928 A \$ 0	70,442	D	
Common Stock					2,192	I	By Isp Trust ⁽²⁾

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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 51.865	01/23/2006		A	120,000	01/23/2007 ⁽³⁾ 01/23/2016	Common Stock 120,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
HAYES JOHN D 3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER 200 VESEY ST, AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER NEW YORK, NY 10285	EVP, Advertising

Signatures

/s/ Stephen P. Norman,
attorney-in-fact
01/25/2006

**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).

- Restricted Stock Award will vest in two equal annual installments (50% on Jan. 23, 2007 and 2008, respectively) subject to the
- (1) Company's achievement of certain financial performance requirements during the vesting period and other award requirements including continuous employment.
 - (2) Shares held in reporting person's account under the Company's Incentive Savings Plan. This plan uses unit accounting, and the number of shares that a participant is deemed to hold varies with the unit price of the Company pooled stock fund.
 - (3) These options will become exercisable in four equal annual installments (25% on Jan. 23, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010, respectively) subject to award requirements including continuous employment.

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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