FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APPROVAL |         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
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## 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

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* <u>HONEYCUTT KENNETH W</u> |   |  |   |         |   | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ACUITY BRANDS INC [ AYI ] |                                   |        |   |   |                  |  |  | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director 10% Owner  Officer (give title Other (specify           |   |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|---|---------|---|---|-----------------------------------|--------|---|---|------------------|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| (Last)<br>1170 PE.<br>SUITE 2                                       | ACHTREE   | rst) (<br>STREET, NE                       | (Middle)                                      |         |   | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/27/2004           |                                   |        |   |   |                  |  |  | X below) below)  Evp Acuity Brands/Pres&Ceo Alg   |   |   |  |  |  |
| (Street) ATLANT   | ГА G  |  | 30309<br>(Zip)                                |         | 4. If   | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)              |                                   |        |   |   |                  |  |  | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ne)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |   |   |  |  |  |
|   |   | Tab  | le I - Noi                                    | n-Deriv | /ative  | e Se  | curiti                            | ies Ac | auired.   | Disi  | oosed o          | of. or Be  | neficial                               | ly Owned  |   |   |  |  |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Tra                              |   | 2. Trans                                   | Transaction                                   |         | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) |   | 3.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr. |        | 4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, |   |                  | 5. Amou<br>Securiti<br>Benefic<br>Owned  | int of<br>es<br>ially<br>Following     | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4)   | Direct C<br>Indirect E<br>tr. 4)  | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership |  |  |  |
|   |   |  |   |         |   |   |                                   | Code   | v   | Amount  | (A) or (D)       | Price  | Reporte<br>Transac<br>(Instr. 3        | tion(s)   |   |   | Instr. 4)  |  |  |
| Common Stock 04/27/   |   |  |   | 7/2004  | 2004  |   | М                                 |        | 7,023   | 3 A   | \$22.4           | 12 57  | 57,383                                 |   | D   |   |  |  |  |
| Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup> 04/27/                                  |   |  |   | 7/2004  | /2004   |   | F                                 |        | 6,049   | ) D   | \$26.0           | 3 51   | 51,334                                 |   | D   |   |  |  |  |
|   |   | Т  | able II -                                     |         |   |   |                                   |        |   |   |                  | , or Ben<br>ble secu   |  | Owned   |   |   |  |  |  |
| 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. Deeme<br>Execution<br>if any<br>(Month/Da | Date,   |   | Transaction<br>Code (Instr.   |                                   | n of E |   | s. Date Exercisable a<br>Expiration Date<br>Month/Day/Year) |                  | d 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Secu<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |  | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)   | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficial<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactio<br>(Instr. 4) | ly C  | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |
|   |   |  |   |         | Code  | v   | (A)                               | (D)    | Date<br>Exercisal:                                    |   | xpiration<br>ate | Title  | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |   |   |   |  |  |  |
| Employee<br>Stock   | \$22.42   | 04/27/2004                                 |   |         | M   |   |                                   | 7,023  | (2)   | 0:  | 9/20/2004        | Common<br>Stock  | 7,023                                  | \$0   | 0   |   | D  |  |  |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- $1. \ The total \ direct shares \ owned \ following \ the \ reported \ transactions \ includes \ 20,406 \ time-vesting \ restricted \ shares.$
- 2. This option vested in equal annual installments over a four-year period.

Kenneth W. Honeycutt 04/28/2004

Date

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

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

- \* 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.