

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL	
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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>HEAGLE JAMES H</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) 1170 PEACHTREE STREET, NE SUITE 2400 (Street) ATLANTA GA 30309 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ACUITY BRANDS INC [AYI]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) Executive Vice President
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/30/2004	
	4. If Amendment, Date of 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

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 ⁽¹⁾	09/30/2004		A		2,375 ⁽²⁾	A	\$0 ⁽²⁾	34,225	D	
Common Stock								197	I	by 401(k)

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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					
Stock Units	(3)	09/30/2004		A		2,375 ⁽⁴⁾		(5)	(5)	Common Stock	\$0	11,759	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- The total direct shares owned following the reported transactions includes 13,417 time-vesting restricted shares.
- Issued upon the achievement of performance targets set forth in a Restricted Stock Award Agreement dated December 18, 2002, under the Company's Long-Term Incentive Plan. Shares remain restricted until November 30, 2005, and at that time are payable one-third in cash and two-thirds in shares.
- 1-for-1
- Issued upon the achievement of performance targets set forth in a Restricted Stock Award Agreement dated December 18, 2002, under the Company's Long-Term Incentive Plan. At the time of the award, the Reporting Person elected to have 50% of restricted earned defered into the Acuity Brands Supplemental Deferred Savings Plan.
- Stock Units are held in the Acuity Brands, Inc. Supplemental Deferred Savings Plan and will be paid in cash according to the plan's provisions.

James H. Heagle 10/02/2004
 ** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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.

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