

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>MENDOZA THOMAS F</u> _____ (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>495 EAST JAVA DRIVE</u> _____ (Street) <u>SUNNYVALE CA 94089</u> _____ (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>NETWORK APPLIANCE INC [NTAP]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <p style="text-align: center;">President</p>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>12/13/2004</u>	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

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	12/13/2004		M		260,000	A	\$11.25	2,011,725	D	
Common Stock	12/13/2004		S		260,000	D	\$32.98	1,751,725	D	
Common Stock	12/13/2004		M		2,648	A	\$14.167	195,025	I	by Spouse
Common Stock	12/13/2004		M		2,187	A	\$17.146	197,212	I	by Spouse
Common Stock	12/13/2004		S		4,835	D	\$32.75	192,377	I	by Spouse

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					
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$11.25	12/13/2004		M			260,000	(1)	05/24/2009	Common Stock 260,000	\$0	0	D	
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$14.167	12/13/2004		M			2,648	(2)	01/02/2010	Common Stock 2,648	\$0	0	I	by Spouse
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$17.146	12/13/2004		M			2,187	(3)	01/01/2011	Common Stock 2,187	\$0	0	I	by Spouse

Explanation of Responses:

- 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.
- Option vests with respect to 1/12 of the option shares on January 31, 2002 and the balance in a series of equal month installments over the next 11 months thereafter.

3. Option vests with respect to 1/12 of the option shares on 1/31/01 and the balance in a series of equal month installments over the next 11 months thereafter.

By: Janice Mahoney by Power
of Attorney For: Thomas F. 12/15/2004
Mendoza

** 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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