

**FORM 4****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**OMB APPROVAL**

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**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>Griffin William</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>20 CROSBY DRIVE</u>  (Street) <u>BEDFORD MA 01730</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ASPEN TECHNOLOGY INC /DE/ [ AZPN ]</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) <u>EVP, Field Operations</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>12/20/2016</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	12/20/2016		M		6,772	A	\$31.26	59,083	D	
Common Stock	12/20/2016		S <sup>(1)</sup>		6,772	D	\$55	52,311	D	

**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)					
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$31.26	12/20/2016		M			6,772	(2)	02/07/2026 Common Stock	6,772	\$0	29,346	D

**Explanation of Responses:**

1. This sale was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan completed and executed by the reporting person on September 1, 2016.  
 2. The option granted at an exercise price of \$31.26 vests in 16 equal consecutive quarterly installments on the last business day of the quarter, beginning on March 31, 2016.

/s/ Frederic G. Hammond,  
attorney-in-fact for Mr. Griffin 12/22/2016

\*\* 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.

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.