FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPRO | OVAL |
|------------------------|-----------|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 |
| Estimated average burd | en |
| hours per response: | 0.5 |

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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* | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ASPEN TECHNOLOGY INC /DE/ [AZPN | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--|
| KINGSLEY DOUGLAS A | | | | ١ī | | | | | | | | X Direc | tor | | 10% Ov | vner | |
| (Last) | (Fi | rst) | _ [| 1 | | | | | | Officer (give title below) | | | Other (s below) | pecify | | | |
| C/O ADVENT INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/31/2004 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 75 STATE STREET, 29TH FLOOR | | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) | | | | | |
| (Street) | | | | _ | | | | | | | '" | , | filed by On | e Ren | ortina Perso | n | |
| BOSTON MA 02109 | | 02109 | | | | | | | | | X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | | | | |
| (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Tab | le I - Non-De | erivativ | e Se | curitie | s Ad | quired, D | isposed | of, or Be | eneficia | lly Owne | ed . | | | | |
| Date | | | | ransaction e nth/Day/Ye | Execution Date, | | | Code (Instr. 5) | | | | | | Form (D) o | n: Direct or Indirect nstr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership | |
| | | | | | | | | Code | Amoui | t (A) or (D) Price | | Transa | ed ction(s) 3 and 4) | | | (Instr. 4) | |
| | | Т | able II - Der (e.g | | | | | uired, Dis s, options | | | | y Owned | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | tive Conversion Date Execution Date, Transaction of Code (Instr. Derivative | | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Sect (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | | 8. Price o Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | | | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | | | | |
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | 1 | | | | | |
| Stock Option (right to buy common stock) | \$8.28 | 03/31/2004 | 03/31/2004 | A | | 3,000 | | 03/31/2004 | 03/31/201 | 4 Common Stock | 3,000 | \$0 | 3,000 |) | D | | |

Explanation of Responses:

/s/ Janet L. Hennessy, Attorney-in-Fact 04/01/2004

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.