

Gupta Ashwini  
Form 4  
May 07, 2012

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2015  
Estimated average burden 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).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
Gupta Ashwini

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3 WORLD FINANCIAL  
CENTER, 200 VESEY ST.,  
AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10285

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

AMERICAN EXPRESS CO [AXP]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)

05/03/2012

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Pres-Risk/Info Mgmt/Banking Gp

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	05/03/2012		M		71,971	A	\$ 29.239
Common Stock	05/03/2012		M		19,421	A	\$ 39.876
Common Stock	05/03/2012		M		51,408	A	\$ 39.907
Common Stock	05/03/2012		M		142,800	A	\$ 43.977
Common Stock	05/03/2012		S <sup>(1)</sup>		258,177	D	\$ 99,120
							60.9001

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(2)

Common Stock	18,253 <sup>(3)</sup>	I	by 401(k) Trust
Common Stock	1,060	I	by family trust

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

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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount of Underlying Security	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount of Underlying Security
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 29.239	05/03/2012		M	71,971	01/27/2004 <sup>(4)</sup> 01/26/2013	Common Stock	71	
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 39.876	05/03/2012		M	19,421	07/28/2004 <sup>(4)</sup> 07/27/2013	Common Stock	19	
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 39.907	05/03/2012		M	51,408	10/01/2004 <sup>(4)</sup> 09/30/2013	Common Stock	51	
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 43.977	05/03/2012		M	142,800	01/26/2005 <sup>(4)</sup> 01/25/2014	Common Stock	142	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Gupta Ashwini 3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER 200 VESEY ST., AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER NEW YORK, NY 10285				Pres-Risk/Info Mgmt/Banking Gp

## Signatures

/s/ Michael G. Kuchs,  
attorney-in-fact

05/07/2012

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* 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).

The reported disposition represents the sale of shares to cover the cost of exercise and withholding tax obligations arising from the stock options exercises reported above and the sale of 50% of the net shares acquired from these exercises; Mr. Gupta will retain the balance of the net shares in accordance with the Company's retention guidelines for executive officers.

(1) The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$60.90 to \$60.91. The reporting person undertakes to provide to American Express Company, any security holder of American Express Company, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within this range.

(2) Shares held in reporting person's account under the Company's Retirement Savings Plan. This plan uses unit accounting, and the number of shares that a participant is deemed to hold varies with the unit price of the Company pooled stock fund.

(3) These options became exercisable in four equal annual installments beginning on date shown as "Date Exercisable."

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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