

AMERICAN EXPRESS CO  
Form 4  
February 28, 2005

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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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 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 \*  
**CRACCHIOLO JAMES M**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER, 3  
WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER**

(Street)

**NEW YORK, NY 10285-5003**

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

**AMERICAN EXPRESS CO [AXP]**

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

**02/24/2005**

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)  
**Member, Global Leadership Team**

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 Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)			
				(A) or (D)	Price					
Common Shares	02/24/2005	02/24/2005	M	V	24,396	A	\$ 39.51	379,336	D	
Common Shares	02/24/2005	02/24/2005	F(1)		20,076	D	\$ 54.19	359,260	D	
Common Shares								4,719	I	By ISP Trust (2)

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

**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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
Employee Stock Option (right of buy)	\$ 39.51	02/24/2005	02/24/2005	M	24,396	05/22/2003 02/27/2005	Common Shares 24,396

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CRACCHIOLO JAMES M AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER 3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER NEW YORK, NY 10285-5003			Member, Global Leadership Team	

## Signatures

James M.  
Cracchiolo 02/28/2005

\*\*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).
- (1) The reported disposition represents the surrender of shares to cover the cost of exercise and tax obligations arising from the exercise of employee stock options.
  - (2) Shares held in reporting person's account under the Company's Incentive Savings Plan as of December 31, 2004. 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.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.