FORM 4

### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| OMB APP     | ROVAL   |
|-------------|---------|
| OMB Number: | 3235-02 |

287 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

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*  BENTON DAVID H JR |   |  |                                     |   | <u>PF</u> | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol PROGRESS SOFTWARE CORP /MA PRGS ] |       |        |                          |   |  |   |  |                       | tionship of Reporting Pers<br>all applicable)<br>Director<br>Officer (give title  |  |                | son(s) to Issuer  10% Owner  Other (specify below)                       |  |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|-----------|---|-------|--------|--------------------------|---|--|---|--|-----------------------|---|--|----------------|--|--|
| (Last)<br>14 OAK  | `   | irst)                                      |                                     | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/19/2004 |           |   |       |        |                          |   |  |   | below) below)  VP and Corporate Controller |                       |   |  |                |  |  |
| (Street) BEDFOR   | BEDFORD MA 01730  |  |                                     |   |           | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                      |       |        |                          |   |  |   |  | i. Indiv<br>ine)<br>X | Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting  Person |  |                |  |  |
|   |   | Tab  | le I - No                           | n-Deriv   | vativ     | e Se  | curit | ies Ac | quired                   | , Dis   | posed o  | of, or Be   | nefici                                     | ally                  | Owned   |  |                |  |  |
| Date  |   |  | 2. Transa<br>Date<br>(Month/I       | /Day/Year)  |           | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year)                   |       | Code   | Transaction Code (Instr. |   | 4. Securities Acquired (A)<br>Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 |   | I and 5) Securition Benefici Owned I       |                       | es<br>ally<br>Following   | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4)  |                | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership                      |  |
|   |   |  |                                     |   |           |   |       |        | Code                     | v   | Amount   | (A) or<br>(D)   | Price                                      |                       | Reported<br>Transact<br>(Instr. 3   | ion(s)   |                |  | (Instr. 4)   |
| Common Stock 03/19  |   |  |                                     | 9/2004  | 2004      |   |       | М      | М                        |   | A  | \$7.2   | 2084                                       | 16,                   | 16,222  |  | D              |  |  |
| Common Stock 03/19  |   |  |                                     | 03/19   | 9/2004    | /2004   |       |        |                          |   | 5,000  | 000 D   |  | 4.2                   | 2 11,222  |  | D              |  |  |
|   |   | -  | Гаble II -                          |   |           |   |       |        |                          |   | osed of,<br>convertil                                      |   |  |                       | wned  |  |                |  |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)         | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemdexecution if any (Month/Da | Date,   |           | nsaction<br>de (Instr.  |       | of Ex  |                          | . Date Exercisable and<br>xpiration Date<br>Month/Day/Year) |  | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Sec<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |  | S<br>(I               | 3. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>Instr. 5)                                | 9. Numbe<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficial<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transactio<br>(Instr. 4) | e<br>s<br>illy | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|   |   |  |                                     |   | Code      | v   | (A)   | (D)    | Date<br>Exercisal        |   | Expiration<br>Date   | Title   | Amou<br>or<br>Numb<br>of<br>Share          | er                    |   |  |                |  |  |
| Incentive<br>Stock  | \$7.2084  | 03/19/2004                                 |                                     |   | M         |   |       | 5,000  | 02/03/199                | 8(1)  | 02/01/2008   | Common<br>Stock   | 5,00                                       | 0                     | \$7.2084  | 10,000   | (2)            | D  |  |

### **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. The options vested in sixty (60) equal monthly increments commencing March 1, 1998.
- 2. As of March 22, 2004, 10,000 options remain vested and available for exercise.

### Remarks:

David H. Benton, Jr.

03/22/2004

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

- $^{\star}$  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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