## THE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY

## **Board of Directors**

Enrique R. Arzac 1,4,5 Thomas H. Lenagh <sup>2,3</sup> Phyllis O. Bonanno 1,4,5 Kathleen T. McGahran 2,4 Daniel E. Emerson 1,3,5 Douglas G. Ober 1 Frederic A. Escherich <sup>2,3</sup> Craig R. Smith 2,4 Roger W. Gale 1,3,5

1. Member of Executive Committee

2. Member of Audit Committee

3. Member of Compensation Committee

4. Member of Retirement Benefits Committee

5. Member of Nominating and Governance Committee

### **Officers**

Douglas G. Ober Chairman and Chief Executive Officer President Joseph M. Truta

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Counsel and Secretary

Maureen A. Jones Vice President,

Chief Financial Officer

and Treasurer

Stephen E. Kohler David R. Schiminger D. Cotton Swindell David D. Weaver Christine M. Sloan Geraldine H. Paré

Vice President—Research Vice President—Research Vice President—Research Vice President—Research Assistant Treasurer Assistant Secretary

### **Stock Data**

Market Price (3/31/07)	\$14.02
Net Asset Value (3/31/07)	\$16.10
Discount:	12.9%

New York Stock Exchange ticker symbol: ADX NASDAQ Mutual Fund Quotation Symbol: XADEX Newspaper stock listings are generally under the abbreviation: AdaEx

## Distributions in 2007

\$0.09 From Investment Income (paid or declared) From Net Realized Gains 0.01 Total \$0.10

## **2007 Dividend Payment Dates**

March 1, 2007 June 1, 2007 September 1, 2007\* December 27, 2007\*

\*Anticipated

# The Adams Express Company

First Quarter Report March 31, 2007

# Generation after generation













## LETTER TO STOCKHOLDERS

We submit herewith the financial statements of the Company for the three months ended March 31, 2007. Also provided are a schedule of investments and other summary financial information.

Net assets of the Company at March 31, 2007 were \$16.10 per share on 86,079,089 shares outstanding, compared with \$15.86 per share at December 31, 2006 on 86,838,223 shares outstanding. On March 1, 2007, a distribution of \$0.05 per share was paid, consisting of \$0.03 from 2006 investment income, \$0.01 from 2006 short-term capital gain, and \$0.01 from 2007 investment income, all taxable in 2007. On April 12, 2007 an investment income dividend of \$0.05 per share was declared to stockholders of record May 17, 2007, payable June 1, 2007.

Net investment income for the three months ended March 31, 2007 amounted to \$5,658,809, compared with \$3,995,963 for the same period in 2006. These earnings are equal to \$0.07 and \$0.05 per share.

Net capital gain realized on investments for the three months ended March 31, 2007 amounted to \$13,403,733, or \$0.16 per share.

The total return on the market value (with dividends and capital gains reinvested) of the Company's shares was 1.5% for the three months ended March 31, 2007. The total return on the net asset value of the Company's shares in the period was 1.9%. These compare to a 0.6% total return for the Standard & Poor's 500 Composite Stock Index and a 0.5% total return for the Lipper Large Cap Core Mutual Fund Average over the same time period.

For the twelve months ended March 31, 2007, the Company's total return on market value was 12.4% and on net asset value was 10.9%, as the discount narrowed during the period. Comparable figures for the S&P 500 and the Lipper Large Cap Core Mutual Fund Average were 11.8% and 9.9%, respectively.

The Annual Meeting was held on March 27, 2007 in Baltimore, Maryland. The results of the voting at the Annual Meeting are shown on page 14.

Current and potential stockholders can find information about the Company, including the daily net asset value (NAV) per share, the market price, and the discount/premium to the NAV, on our website at www.adamsexpress.com. Also available on the website are a history of the Company, historical financial information, and other useful content. Further information regarding stockholder services is located on page 15 of this report.

After serving 31 years on the Company's Board of Directors, Mr. John J. Roberts retired in March 2007. During Mr. Robert's tenure on the Board, the Fund's net assets grew by 600 percent. His extensive international business experience was a major contributor to the Company's growth. We thank him for his deep commitment to the Company and wish him well in his retirement.

By order of the Board of Directors,

Douglas G. Ober, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Joseph M. Truta, *President* 

April 13, 2007

# STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

# March 31, 2007 (unaudited)

Net Asset Value Per Share of Common Stock		\$16.10	
Net Assets Applicable to Common Stock		\$1,386,292,178	
Unrealized appreciation on investments	423,784,08		
Undistributed net realized gain on investments		13,801,998	
Undistributed net investment income		6,825,485	
Accumulated other comprehensive income (Note 5)		(1,763,035)	
Additional capital surplus		943,557,562	
shares, 6,000 restricted stock units, and 3,634 deferred stock units) (Note 6)		\$ 86,079	
issued and outstanding 86,079,089 shares (includes 91,514 restricted			
Net Assets Common Stock at par value \$0.001 per share, authorized 150,000,000 shares;			
Net Assets		\$1,386,292,178	
Total Liabilities		33,692,611	
Accrued expenses		3,461,708	
Obligations to return securities lending collateral		28,643,337	
Open written option contracts at value (proceeds \$595,314)		939,650	
Investment securities purchased		647,916	
Liabilities			
Total Assets		1,419,984,789	
Prepaid expenses and other assets		2,375,756	
Prepaid pension cost		3,378,884	
Dividends and interest receivable		1,347,751	
Cash		382,806	
Securities lending collateral (cost \$28,643,337)	28,643,337	\$1,412,499,592	
Short-term investments (cost \$46,197,227)	46,197,227		
(cost \$34,735,404)	75,727,984		
Non-controlled affiliate, Petroleum & Resources Corporation	Ψ1,201,931,044		
	\$1,261,931,044		
Investments* at value:  Common stocks and convertible securities			
Assets			

<sup>\*</sup>See Schedule of Investments on pages 8 and 9.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

# Three Months Ended March 31, 2007 (unaudited)

## **Investment Income**

Income:	
Dividends:	
From unaffiliated issuers	\$ 6,497,518
From non-controlled affiliate	131,206
Interest and other income	728,224
Total income	7,356,948
Expenses:	
Investment research	756,112
Administration and operations	367,333
Directors' fees	100,773
Reports and stockholder communications	87,479
Transfer agent, registrar and custodian expenses	84,491
Auditing and accounting services	30,330
Legal services	32,696
Occupancy and other office expenses	170,254
Travel, telephone and postage	25,326
Other	43,345
Total expenses	1,698,139
Net Investment Income	5,658,809

# Realized Gain and Change in Unrealized Appreciation on Investments

Change in Net Assets Resulting from Operations	\$24,090,375
Net Gain on Investments	18,431,566
Change in unrealized appreciation on investments	5,027,833
Net realized gain distributed by regulated investment company (non-controlled affiliate)	153,074
Net realized gain on security transactions	13,250,659

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	M	te Months Ended Harch 31, 2007 (unaudited)	Year Ended December 31, 2006	
From Operations:				
Net investment income	\$	5,658,809	\$	19,691,488
Net realized gain on investments		13,403,733		56,553,881
Change in unrealized appreciation on investments		5,027,833		102,278,889
Change in accumulated other comprehensive income (note 5)		61,070		(1,824,105)
Change in net assets resulting from operations		24,151,445		176,700,153
Distributions to Stockholders from:				
Net investment income		(3,465,912)		(19,554,259)
Net realized gain from investment transactions		(868,719)		(56,771,240)
Decrease in net assets from distributions		(4,334,631)		(76,325,499)
From Capital Share Transactions:				
Value of shares issued in payment of distributions		3,556		31,661,698
Cost of shares purchased (Note 4)		(11,165,881)		(21,770,315)
Deferred compensation (Notes 4,6)		219,379		423,621
Change in net assets from capital share transactions		(10,942,946)		10,315,004
Total Change in Net Assets		8,873,868		110,689,658
Net Assets:				
Beginning of period	1.	,377,418,310	1	,266,728,652
End of period (including undistributed net investment				
income of \$6,825,485 and \$4,632,588, respectively)	\$1.	,386,292,178	\$1	,377,418,310

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

#### 1. Significant Accounting Policies

The Adams Express Company (the Company) is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 as a diversified investment company. The Company is an internally-managed fund whose investment objectives are preservation of capital, the attainment of reasonable income from investments, and an opportunity for capital appreciation.

Security Valuation — Investments in securities traded on a national security exchange are valued at the last reported sale price on the day of valuation. Over-the-counter and listed securities for which a sale price is not available are valued at the last quoted bid price. Short-term investments (excluding purchased options) are valued at amortized cost. Purchased and written options are valued at the last quoted asked price.

**Affiliated Companies** — Investments in companies 5% or more of whose outstanding voting securities are held by the Company are defined as "Affiliated Companies" in Section 2(a)(3) of the Investment Company Act of 1940.

Security Transactions and Investment Income — Investment transactions are accounted for on the trade date. Gain or loss on sales of securities and options is determined on the basis of identified cost. Dividend income and distributions to stockholders are recognized on the ex-dividend date, and interest income is recognized on the accrual basis

#### 2. Federal Income Taxes

The Company's policy is to distribute all of its taxable income to its stockholders in compliance with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code applicable to regulated investment companies. Therefore, no federal income tax provision is required. For federal income tax purposes, the identified cost of securities at March 31, 2007 was \$987,883,916 and net unrealized appreciation aggregated \$424,615,676, of which the related gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation were \$485,201,590 and \$60,585,914, respectively.

Distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations which may differ from generally accepted accounting principles. Accordingly, annual reclassifications are made within the Company's capital accounts to reflect income and gains available for distribution under income tax regulations.

#### 3. Investment Transactions

The Company's investment decisions are made by a committee of management, and recommendations to that committee are made by the research staff

Purchases and sales of portfolio securities, other than options and short-term investments, during the three months ended March 31, 2007 were \$33,286,614 and \$34,857,407, respectively. Options may be written (sold) or purchased by the Company. The Company, as writer of an option, bears the risks of possible illiquidity of the option markets and from movements in security values. The risk associated with purchasing an option is limited to the premium originally paid. A schedule of outstanding option contracts as of March 31, 2007 can be found on page 11.

Transactions in written covered call and collateralized put options during the three months ended March 31, 2007 were as follows:

	Covered Calls		Collatera	lized Puts	
	Contracts	Premiums	Contracts	Premiums	
Options outstanding,					
December 31, 2006	3,745	\$ 497,618	2,103	\$ 220,313	
Options written	2,425	309,613	1,635	185,739	
Options terminated in closing purchase					
transactions	(450)	(63,898)	_	_	
Options expired	(1,850)	(215,587)	(1,903)	(181,664)	
Options exercised	(1,100)	(156,820)	_		
Options outstanding,					
March 31, 2007	2,770	\$ 370,926	1,835	\$ 224,388	

#### 4. Capital Stock

The Company has 10,000,000 authorized and unissued preferred shares, \$0.001 par value.

On December 27, 2006, the Company issued 2,301,959 shares of its Common Stock at a price of \$13.75 per share (the average market price on December 11, 2006) to stockholders of record on November 21, 2006 who elected to take stock in payment of the year-end distribution from 2006 capital gain and investment income. In addition, 722 shares were issued at a weighted average price of \$13.43 per share as dividend equivalents to holders of deferred stock units and restricted stock units under the 2005 Equity Incentive Compensation Plan.

During 2007, the Company has issued 253 shares of its Common Stock at a weighted average price of \$13.97 per share as dividend equivalents to holders of deferred stock units and restricted stock units under the 2005 Equity Incentive Compensation Plan.

The Company may purchase shares of its Common Stock from time to time at such prices and amounts as the Board of Directors may deem advisable.

Transactions in Common Stock for 2007 and 2006 were as follows:

	Shares		Amount		
	Three months ended March 31, 2007	Year ended December 31, 2006	Three months ended March 31, 2007	Year ended December 31, 2006	
Shares issued in payment of distributions Shares purchased (at a weighted average discount	253	2,302,681	\$ 3,556	\$ 31,661,698	
from net asset value of 13.3% and 13.9%, respectively) Net activity under the Equity Based	(804,174)	(1,623,542)	(11,165,881)	) (21,770,315)	
Compensation Plans	44,787	59,477	219,379	423,621	
Net change	(759,134)	738,616	\$(10,942,946)	\$ 10,315,004	

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### 5. Retirement Plans

The Company's non-contributory qualified defined benefit pension plan covers all employees with at least one year of service. In addition, the Company has a non-contributory nonqualified defined benefit plan which provides eligible employees with retirement benefits to supplement the qualified plan. Benefits are based on length of service and compensation during the last five years of employment.

The funded status of the plans is recognized as an asset (overfunded plan) or a liability (underfunded plan) in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Changes in the funded status are recognized as accumulated other comprehensive income, a component of net assets, in the year in which the changes occur.

The Company's policy is to contribute annually to the plans those amounts that can be deducted for federal income tax purposes, plus additional amounts as the Company deems appropriate in order to provide assets sufficient to meet benefits to be paid to plan participants. During the three months ended March 31, 2007, the Company did not contribute to the plans. The Company does not anticipate making any contribution to the overfunded plan in 2007.

The following table aggregates the components of the plans' net periodic pension cost:

	Three months ended March 31, 2007	Year ended December 31, 2006
Service cost	\$ 121,829	\$ 460,969
Interest cost	142,124	518,015
Expected return on plan assets	(213,888)	(922,155)
Amortization of prior service cost	23,627	119,776
Amortization of net (gain)/loss	40,656	180,764
Deferred asset gain	_	128,119
Net periodic pension cost	\$ 114,348	\$ 485,488

The Company also sponsors a defined contribution plan that covers substantially all employees. For the three months ended March 31, 2007, the Company expensed contributions of \$47,654. The Company does not provide postretirement medical benefits.

#### **6. Equity-Based Compensation**

Although the Stock Option Plan of 1985 ("1985 Plan") has been discontinued and no further grants will be made under this plan, unexercised grants of stock options and stock appreciation rights granted in 2004 and prior years remain outstanding. The exercise price of the unexercised options and related stock appreciation rights is the fair market value on date of grant, reduced by the per share amount of capital gains paid by the Company during subsequent years. All options and related stock appreciation rights terminate 10 years from date of grant, if not exercised.

A summary of option activity under the 1985 Plan as of March 31, 2007, and changes during the three month period then ended, is presented below:

	Options	Weighted- Average Exercise Price	Weighted- Average Remaining Life (Years
Outstanding at December 31, 2006 Exercised	201,990 (43,910)	\$11.81 10.33	4.79
Outstanding at March 31, 2007	158,080	\$12.21	4.15
Exercisable at March 31, 2007	91,558	\$12.58	3.47

The options outstanding as of March 31, 2007 are set forth below:

	Options	Weighted Average Exercise	Weighted Average Remaining
Exercise Price	Outstanding	Price	Life (Years)
\$8.25-\$10.49	48,517	\$ 9.33	3.63
\$10.50-\$12.74	58,415	11.03	5.29
\$12.75-\$14.99	_	_	_
\$15.00-\$17.25	51,148	16.28	3.34
Outstanding at March 31, 2007	158,080	\$12.21	4.15

Compensation cost resulting from stock options and stock appreciation rights granted under the 1985 Plan is based on the intrinsic value of the award, recognized over the award's vesting period, and remeasured at each reporting date through the date of settlement. The total compensation cost recognized for the three months ended March 31, 2007 was \$41,441

The 2005 Equity Incentive Compensation Plan ("2005 Plan"), adopted at the 2005 Annual Meeting, permits the grant of stock options, restricted stock awards and other stock incentives to key employees and all non-employee directors. The 2005 Plan provides for the issuance of up to 3,413,131 shares of the Company's Common Stock, including both performance and nonperformance-based restricted stock. Performance-based restricted stock awards vest at the end of a specified three year period, with the ultimate number of awards earned contingent on achievement of certain performance targets. If performance targets are not achieved, all or a portion of the performance-based awards are forfeited and become available for future grants. Nonperformance-based restricted stock awards vest ratably over a three year period and nonperformance-based restricted stock units (granted to non-employee directors) vest over a one year period. It is the current intention that employee grants will be performance-based. The 2005 Plan provides for accelerated vesting in the event of death or retirement. Non-employee directors also may elect to defer a portion of their cash compensation, with such deferred amount to be paid by delivery of deferred stock units. Outstanding awards are granted at fair market value on grant date. The number of shares of Common Stock which remains available for future grants under the 2005 Plan at March 31, 2007 is 3,289,816 shares.

The Company pays dividends and dividend equivalents on outstanding awards, which are charged to net assets when paid. Dividends and dividend equivalents paid on restricted awards that are later forfeited are reclassified to compensation expense.

A summary of the status of the Company's awards granted under the 2005 Plan as of March 31, 2007, and changes during the three month period then ended, is presented below:

Awards	Shares/ Units	Weighted Average Grant-Date Fair Value
Balance at December 31, 2006	70,493	\$12.92
Granted:		
Restricted stock	32,720	13.73
Restricted stock units	6,000	14.07
Deferred stock units	485	13.79
Vested	(8,550)	13.24
Forfeited	_	_
Balance at March 31, 2007 (includes 82,220 performance-based awards and 18,928		
nonperformance-based awards)	101,148	\$13.17

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Compensation costs resulting from awards granted under the 2005 Plan are based on the fair value of the award on grant date (determined by the average of the high and low price on grant date) and recognized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period. For those awards with performance conditions, compensation costs are based on the most probable outcome and, if such goals are not met, compensation cost is not recognized and any previously recognized compensation cost is reversed. The total compensation costs for restricted stock granted to employees for the period ending March 31, 2007 were \$104,398. The total compensation costs for restricted stock units granted to nonemployee directors for the period ended March 31, 2007 were \$29,523. As of March 31, 2007, there were total unrecognized compensation costs of \$927,551, a component of additional capital surplus, related to nonvested equity-based compensation arrangements granted under the 2005 Plan. Those costs are expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 2.08 years.

#### 7. Expenses

The aggregate remuneration paid during the three months ended March 31, 2007 to officers and directors amounted to \$1,513,383, of which \$135,041 was paid as fees and compensation to directors

who were not officers. These amounts represent the taxable income to the Company's officers and directors and therefore differ from the amounts reported in the accompanying Statement of Operations that are recorded and expensed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

#### 8. Portfolio Securities Loaned

The Company makes loans of securities to brokers, secured by cash deposits, U.S. Government securities, or bank letters of credit. The Company accounts for securities lending transactions as secured financing and receives compensation in the form of fees or retains a portion of interest on the investment of any cash received as collateral. The Company also continues to receive interest or dividends on the securities loaned. The loans are secured at all times by collateral of at least 102% of the fair value of the securities loaned plus accrued interest. Gain or loss in the fair value of the securities loaned that may occur during the term of the loan will be for the account of the Company. At March 31, 2007, the Company had securities on loan of \$28,050,440 and held collateral of \$28,643,337, consisting of an investment trust fund which may invest in money market instruments, commercial paper, repurchase agreements, U.S. Treasury Bills, and U.S. agency obligations.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	Three Mor	nths Ended	]				
	(unau	dited)	V Fradad Daramban 21		Year Ended December 31		
	March 31, 2007	March 31, 2006	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Per Share Operating Performance Net asset value, beginning of period	\$15.86	\$14.71	\$14.71	\$15.04	\$14.36	\$12.12	\$16.05
Net investment income Net realized gains and increase (decrease) in	0.07	0.05	0.23	0.22	0.23*	0.19	0.20
unrealized appreciation Change in accumulated other comprehensive	0.20	0.75	1.86	0.32	1.39	2.85	(3.38)
income (note 5)	_	_	(0.02)	_	_	_	_
Total from investment operations	0.27	0.80	2.07	0.54	1.62	3.04	(3.18)
Less distributions Dividends from net investment income Distributions from net realized gains	(0.04) (0.01)	(0.03) (0.02)	(0.23) (0.67)	(0.22) (0.64)	(0.24) (0.66)	(0.17) (0.61)	(0.19) (0.57)
Total distributions	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.90)	(0.86)	(0.90)	(0.78)	(0.76)
Capital share repurchases Reinvestment of distributions	0.02	0.02	0.04 (0.06)	0.05 (0.06)	0.02 (0.06)	0.04 (0.06)	0.05 (0.04)
Total capital share transactions	0.02	0.02	(0.02)	(0.01)	(0.04)	(0.02)	0.01
Net asset value, end of period	\$16.10	\$15.48	\$15.86	\$14.71	\$15.04	\$14.36	\$12.12
Per share market price, end of period  Total Investment Return	\$14.02	\$13.30	\$13.87	\$12.55	\$13.12	\$12.41	\$10.57
Based on market price Based on net asset value	1.5% 1.9%	6.4% 5.6%	17.9% 15.0%	2.2% 4.5%	13.2% 12.1%	25.2% 26.3%	(20.6)% (19.4)%
Ratios/Supplemental Data Net assets, end of period (in 000's)	\$1,386,292	\$1,320,511	\$1,377,418	\$1,266,729	\$1,295,549	\$1,218,862	\$1.024.810
Ratio of expenses to average net assets Ratio of net investment income to average net	0.49%†	0.53%†	0.50%		0.43%	0.47%	0.34%
assets Portfolio turnover	1.64%† 10.04%†	1.23%† 11.31%†	1.50% 10.87%				1.42% 17.93%
Number of shares outstanding at end of period (in 000's)	86,079	85,309	86,838	86,100	86,135	84,886	84,536

<sup>\*</sup> In 2004 the Company received \$2,400,000, or \$0.03 per share, in an extraordinary dividend from Microsoft Corp.

† Ratios presented on an annualized basis.

# SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

# March 31, 2007 (unaudited)

	Shares	Value (A)	,	Shares	Value (A)
Stocks and Convertible Securities —	96.5%		Insurance — 3.7%		
Consumer — 17.6%			AMBAC Financial Group, Inc.	200,000	\$ 17,278,000
Consumer Discretionary — 7.0%			American International Group,	500,000	22 (10 000
BJ's Wholesale Club, Inc. (B)	500,000	\$ 16,915,000	Inc.	500,000	33,610,000
Clear Channel					50,888,000
Communications, Inc.	175,000	6,132,000	Health Care — 12.5%		
Comcast Corp. (B)	525,000	13,623,750	Abbott Laboratories	320,000	17,856,000
Gannett Co., Inc.	112,500	6,332,625	Advanced Medical Optics,	220,000	17,000,000
Harley-Davidson, Inc. Newell Rubbermaid Inc.	120,000 400,000	7,050,000 12,436,000	Inc. (B)	325,000	12,090,000
OSI Restaurant Partners, Inc.	315,000	12,436,000	Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	345,000	9,577,200
Ryland Group Inc. (C)	135,000	5,695,650	CVS/Caremark Corp.	208,750	7,126,725
Target Corp.	290,000	17,185,400	Genentech, Inc. (B)	220,000	18,066,400
rarget corp.	290,000		Johnson & Johnson	255,000	15,366,300
		97,812,925	MedImmune, Inc. (B)	225,000	8,187,750
Consumer Staples — 10.6%			Medtronic, Inc.	310,000	15,208,600
Avon Products, Inc.	430,000	16,021,800	Pfizer Inc.	1,120,000	28,291,200
Bunge Ltd.	180,000	14,799,600	Teva Pharmaceutical Industries		
Coca-Cola Co.	200,000	9,600,000	Ltd. ADR	385,000	14,410,550
Dean Foods Co. (B)	340,000	15,891,600	Wyeth Co.	325,000	16,259,750
Del Monte Foods Co.	1,115,000	12,800,200	Zimmer Holdings, Inc. (B)	125,000	10,676,250
PepsiCo, Inc.	400,000	25,424,000			173,116,725
Procter & Gamble Co.	340,000	21,474,400			173,110,723
Safeway Inc.	390,000	14,289,600	Industrials — 13.0%		
Unilever plc ADR	550,000	16,538,500	Cintas Corp. (C)	300,000	10,830,000
		146,839,700	Curtiss-Wright Corp.	460,000	17,728,400
E 12.16			Emerson Electric Co.	400,000	17,236,000
Energy — 12.1% ConocoPhillips	245 000	22 590 750	General Electric Co.	1,487,700	52,605,072
ENSCO International, Inc.	345,000 209,150	23,580,750 11,377,760	Illinois Tool Works Inc.	250,000	12,900,000
Exxon Mobil Corp.	215,000	16,221,750	Masco Corp. (C)	450,000	12,330,000
Marathon Oil Co.	120,000	11,859,600	Oshkosh Truck Corp.	270,000	14,310,000
Murphy Oil Corp.	38,500	2,055,900	3M Co.	160,000	12,228,800
Petroleum & Resources	36,300	2,033,700	United Parcel Service, Inc.	155,000	10,865,500
Corporation (D)	2,186,774	75,727,984	United Technologies Corp.	300,000	19,500,000
Schlumberger Ltd.	380,000	26,258,000			180,533,772
	,		Information Technology — 11.0%	, n	
		167,081,744	Communication Equipment — I		
Financials — 18.7%			Avaya Inc. (B)	600,000	7,086,000
Banking — 15.0%			Corning Inc. (B)	500,000	11,370,000
BankAtlantic Bancorp, Inc.	880,000	9,644,800		,	
Bank of America Corp.	610,000	31,122,200			18,456,000
Bank of New York Co., Inc.			Computer Related — 8.1%		
(The)	375,000	15,206,250	Automatic Data Processing Inc.	300,000	14,520,000
Compass Bancshares Inc.	300,000	20,640,000	BEA Systems, Inc. (B)	800,000	9,272,000
Fifth Third Bancorp (C) Investors Financial Services	280,000	10,833,200	Cisco Systems, Inc. (B)	850,000	21,700,500
Corp.	382,500	22,242,375	Dell Inc. (B)	585,000	13,577,850
Morgan Stanley	170,000	13,389,200	Microsoft Corp.	1,180,000	32,886,600
PNC Financial Services Group	170,000	13,369,200	Oracle Corp. (B)	1,100,000	19,943,000
Inc.	200,000	14,394,000			111,899,950
Prosperity Bancshares, Inc.	200,000	6,948,000	FI		
Wachovia Corp.	470,000	25,873,500	Electronics — 1.6%	277.000	( 170 700
Wells Fargo & Co.	650,000	22,379,500	Cree, Inc. (B)(C)	375,000	6,172,500
Wilmington Trust Corp.	363,000	15,307,710	Intel Corp.	800,000	15,304,000
S	,				21,476,500
		207,980,735			

# SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

# March 31, 2007 (unaudited)

	Shares		Value (A)		Prin. Amt.		Value (A)
Materials — 5.2%				Short-Term Investments — 3.3%	,		
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.	250,000	\$	18,472,500	U.S. Government Obligations	s —1.2%		
du Pont (E.I.) de Nemours				U.S. Treasury Bills,			
and Co.	360,000		17,794,800	5.00%, due 5/17/07	\$16,500,000	\$	16,394,583
Florida Rock Industries Inc.	200,000		13,458,000	Time Deposit — 0.0%		_	
Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.	14,600		1,973,920	Citibank, N.A.,			
Rohm & Haas Co.	400,000		20,688,000	4.69%, due 4/2/07			348,083
			72,387,220	Commercial Paper — 2.1%			
Telecom Services — 2.8%				American General Finance.			
Alltel Corp.	300,000		18,600,000	Inc., 5.20 - 5.25%, due			
AT&T Corp.	400,000		15,772,000	4/3/07-4/5/07	10,800,000		10,795,392
Windstream Corp.	310,178		4,556,515	Chevron Funding Corp.,	.,,.		.,,
1		_	38,928,515	5.21%, due 4/19/07	5,900,000		5,884,630
		_	36,926,313	General Electric Capital			
Utilities — 3.6%				Corp., 5.22 - 5.23%, due			
Aqua America, Inc.	608,000		13,649,600	4/5/07-4/26/07	9,500,000		9,479,802
Duke Energy Corp.	611,560		12,408,552	Toyota Motor Credit Corp.,			
MDU Resources Group, Inc.	562,500		16,166,250	5.22%, due 4/12/07	3,300,000		3,294,737
Spectra Energy Corp.	305,780		8,032,840				29,454,561
			50,257,242				27, 13 1,301
Ontal Stocks and Convertible Securit		_		Total Short-Term Investments			46 405 225
	ties	<b>ф1</b>	,337,659,028	(Cost \$46,197,227)		_	46,197,227
(Cost \$913,530,603) (E)		\$1	,337,039,028	Total Securities Lending Collater	ral — 2.1%		
				(Cost \$28,643,337)			
				Brown Brothers Investment			
				Trust, 5.26%, due 4/2/07		_	28,643,337
				Total Investments — 101.9%			
				(Cost \$988,371,167)		1	,412,499,592
				Cash, receivables, prepaid pension	on cost,		

#### Notes:

(A) See note 1 to financial statements. Securities are listed on the New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange or the NASDAQ.

prepaid expenses and other assets, less

liabilities — (1.9)%

Net Assets — 100%

- (B) Presently non-dividend paying.
- (C) Some of the shares of this company are on loan. See note 8 to financial statements.
- (D) Non-controlled affiliate, a closed-end sector fund, registered as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940.
- (E) The aggregate market value of stocks held in escrow at March 31, 2007 covering open call option contracts written was \$17,688,210. In addition, the aggregate market value of securities segregated by the Company's custodian required to collateralize open put option contracts written was \$9,290,000.

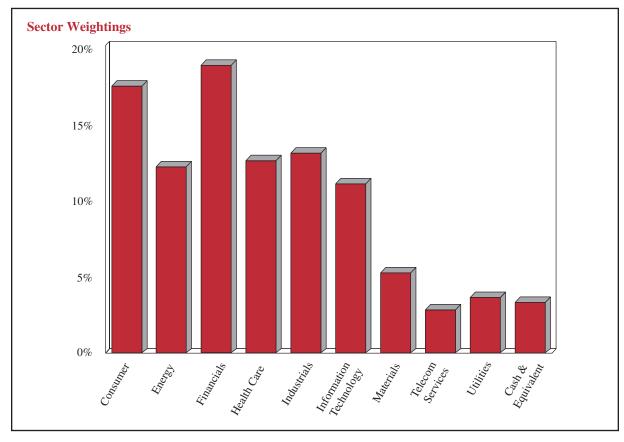
(26,207,414)

\$1,386,292,178

# PORTFOLIO SUMMARY

March 31, 2007 (unaudited)

	Market Value	% of Net Asset.
Petroleum & Resources Corporation*	\$ 75,727,984	5.5
General Electric Co.	52,605,072	3.8
American International Group, Inc.	33,610,000	2.4
Microsoft Corp.	32,886,600	2.4
Bank of America Corp.	31,122,200	2.2
Pfizer Inc.	28,291,200	2.0
Schlumberger Ltd.	26,258,000	1.9
Wachovia Corp.	25,873,500	1.9
PepsiCo, Inc.	25,424,000	1.8
ConocoPhillips	23,580,750	1.7
Total	\$355,379,306	25.6%



# SCHEDULE OF OUTSTANDING OPTION CONTRACTS

# March 31, 2007 (unaudited)

Contracts (100 shares each)	Security	Strike Price	Contract Expiration Date	Appreciation/ (Depreciation)
	COVERED CALLS			
200	Air Products and Chemicals, Inc	\$ 80	Jun 07	\$ 5,399
100	Bunge Ltd	70	Apr 07	(116,125)
150	Bunge Ltd	75	Apr 07	(95,701)
100	Bunge Ltd	80	Apr 07	(21,300)
100	Bunge Ltd	90	Jul 07	(15,800)
375	Comcast Corp	33	Jul 07	24,874
100	Harley-Davidson, Inc	80	May 07	10,499
250	Investors Financial Services Corp	50	Apr 07	(180,126)
100	Marathon Oil Co	105	Apr 07	14,724
100	Martin Marietta Materials, Inc	130	Apr 07	(51,528)
100	Morgan Stanley	75	Apr 07	(19,301
100	Morgan Stanley	80	Apr 07	(2,800
100	Morgan Stanley	85	Jul 07	(6,800
200	Ryland Group Inc	65	Jul 07	39,398
250	Safeway Inc.	40	Sep 07	(8,376
100	Target Corp	65	Apr 07	12,200
100	Target Corp	70	Jul 07	9,950
45	3M Co	85	Apr 07	5,490
100	United Technologies Corp	75	May 07	12,200
100	Zimmer Holdings, Inc	85	Jun 07	(19,301)
2,770				(402,424
	COLLATERALIZED PUTS			
150	Advanced Medical Optics, Inc	35	Apr 07	18,298
250	ENSCO International, Inc.	40	Jun 07	37,998
100	Exxon Mobil Corp	65	Jul 07	6,100
150	Florida Rock Industries Inc	40	Jun 07	8,549
250	Oshkosh Truck Corp	45	July 07	4,249
150	Oshkosh Truck Corp	50	Jul 07	(10,950
100	PNC Financial Services Group, Inc	72.50	May 07	(11,800
100	PNC Financial Services Group, Inc	70	Aug 07	(12,300
100	Ryland Group Inc	40	Apr 07	2,750
100	Ryland Group Inc	42.50	Apr 07	(4,800)
35	Ryland Group Inc	40	Jul 07	(6,405)
250	3M Co	70	Jul 07	15,499
100	Wachovia Corp	50	Apr 07	10,900
1,835	-		-	58,088
				\$(344,336)

## CHANGES IN PORTFOLIO SECURITIES

# During the Three Months Ended March 31, 2007 (unaudited)

	Shares		
	Additions	Reductions	Held March 31, 2007
CVS/Caremark Corp	$208,750^{(1)}$		208,750
Oshkosh Truck Corp.	270,000		270,000
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.	200,000		200,000
Ryland Group Inc.	85,000		135,000
Spectra Energy Corp.	$305,780^{(2)}$		305,780
Comcast Corp	175,000(3)	15,000	525,000
Bunge Ltd		20,000	180,000
Caremark Rx Inc.		$245,000^{(1)}$	_
Clear Channel Communications, Inc.		175,000	175,000
Donnelley (R.R.) & Sons Co		100,000	_
Essex Corp		174,800(4)	_
Harley-Davidson, Inc.		45,000	120,000
Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.		68,400	14,600
Morgan Stanley		30,000	170,000
Safeway Inc.		33,000	390,000
Target Corp.		10,000	290,000

<sup>(1)</sup> Received 208,750 shares of CVS/Caremark Corp. for 125,000 shares of Caremark Rx Inc. surrendered. Sold 120,000 shares of Caremark Rx Inc. prior to the merger.

This report, including the financial statements herein, is transmitted to the stockholders of The Adams Express Company for their information. It is not a prospectus, circular or representation intended for use in the purchase or sale of shares of the Company or of any securities mentioned in the report. The rates of return will vary and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate. Shares, if sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Past performance is not indicative of future investment results.

<sup>(2)</sup> Received .50 share of Spectra Energy Corp. for each share of Duke Energy Corp. held.

<sup>(3)</sup> By stock split.

<sup>(4)</sup> Received \$24.00 for each share of Essex Corp. surrendered as a result of merger with Northrop Grumman Corp.

## HISTORICAL FINANCIAL STATISTICS

### (unaudited)

Dec. 31	Value Of Net Assets	Shares Outstanding*	Net Asset Value Per Share*	Market Value Per Share*	Dividends From Investment Income Per Share*	Distributions From Net Realized Gains Per Share*	Total Dividends and Distributions Per Share*	Annual Rate of Distribution**
1997	\$1,424,170,425	74,923,859	\$19.01	\$16.13	\$.29	\$1.01	\$1.30	8.65%
1998	1,688,080,336	77,814,977	21.69	17.75	.30	1.10	1.40	8.17
1999	2,170,801,875	80,842,241	26.85	22.38	.26	1.37	1.63	8.53
2000	1,951,562,978	82,292,262	23.72	21.00	.22	1.63	1.85	7.76
2001	1,368,366,316	85,233,262	16.05	14.22	.26	1.39	1.65	9.44
2002	1,024,810,092	84,536,250	12.12	10.57	.19	.57	.76	6.14
2003	1,218,862,456	84,886,412	14.36	12.41	.17	.61	.78	6.80
2004	1,295,548,900	86,135,292	15.04	13.12	.24	.66	.90	7.05
2005	1,266,728,652	86,099,607	14.71	12.55	.22	.64	.86	6.65
2006	1,377,418,310	86,838,223	15.86	13.87	.23	.67	.90	6.80
March 31, 2007	1,386,292,178	86,079,089	16.10	14.02	.09†	.01†	.10†	_

<sup>\*</sup> Adjusted to reflect the 3-for-2 stock split effected in October 2000.

## **Common Stock**

Listed on the New York Stock Exchange

# **The Adams Express Company**

Seven St. Paul Street, Suite 1140, Baltimore, MD 21202 (410) 752-5900 or (800) 638-2479

Website: www.adamsexpress.com E-mail: contact@adamsexpress.com Counsel: Chadbourne & Parke L.L.P.

Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm: PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Transfer Agent & Registrar: American Stock Transfer & Trust Co.

Custodian of Securities: Brown Brothers Harriman & Co.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The annual rate of distribution is the total dividends and capital gain distributions during the year divided by the average daily market price of the Company's Common Stock.

<sup>†</sup> Paid or declared.

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders was held on March 27, 2007. For those directors nominated, the following votes were cast:

	votes for	votes withheld
Enrique R. Arzac:	70,583,552	3,419,242
Phyllis O. Bonanno:	70,467,549	3,535,245
Daniel E. Emerson:	70,174,177	3,828,617
Frederic A. Escherich:	70,559,411	3,443,383
Roger W. Gale:	70,574,820	3,427,973
Thomas H. Lenagh:	69,997,823	4,004,971
Kathleen T. McGahran:	70,567,991	3,434,803
Douglas G. Ober:	70,551,661	3,451,133
Craig R. Smith:	70,492,681	3,510,113

A proposal to approve and ratify the selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Company for 2007 was approved with 72,756,592 votes for, 758,889 votes against, and 487,304 shares abstaining.

#### OTHER INFORMATION

# Statement on Quarterly Filing of Complete Portfolio Schedule

In addition to publishing its complete schedule of portfolio holdings in the First and Third Quarter Reports to stockholders, the Company files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the Securities and Exchange Commission for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-Q. The Company's Forms N-Q are available on the Commission's website at www.sec.gov. The Company's Forms N-Q may be reviewed and copied at the Commission's Public Reference Room, and information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 1-800-SEC-0330. The Company also posts its Forms N-Q on its website at www.adamsexpress.com under the heading "Financial Reports".

## **Proxy Voting Policies and Record**

A description of the policies and procedures that the Company uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities owned by the Company and information as to how the Company voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the 12 month period ended June 30, 2006 are available (i) without charge, upon request, by calling the Company's toll free number at (800) 638-2479; (ii) on the Company's website by clicking on "Corporate Information" heading on the website; and (iii) on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at http://www.sec.gov.

## **Privacy Policy**

In order to conduct its business, The Adams Express Company, through its transfer agent, currently American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, collects and maintains certain nonpublic personal information about our stockholders of record with respect to their transactions in shares of our securities. This information includes the stockholder's address, tax identification or Social Security number, share balances, and dividend elections. We do not collect or maintain personal information about stockholders whose shares of our securities are held in "street name" by a financial institution such as a bank or broker.

We do not disclose any nonpublic personal information about you, our other stockholders or our former stockholders to third parties unless necessary to process a transaction, service an account or as otherwise permitted by law.

To protect your personal information internally, we restrict access to nonpublic personal information about our stockholders to those employees who need to know that information to provide services to our stockholders. We also maintain certain other safeguards to protect your nonpublic personal information.

#### DIVIDEND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The Company presently pays dividends four times a year, as follows: (a) three interim distributions on or about March 1, June 1, and September 1, and (b) a "year-end" distribution, payable in late December, consisting of the estimated balance of the net investment income for the year and the net realized capital gain earned through October 31. Stockholders may elect to receive the year-end distribution in stock or cash. In connection with this distribution, all **stockholders of record** are sent a dividend announcement notice and an election card in mid-November.

Stockholders holding shares in "street" or brokerage accounts may make their election by notifying their brokerage house representative.

## **INVESTORS CHOICE**

INVESTORS CHOICE is a direct stock purchase and sale plan, as well as a dividend reinvestment plan, sponsored and administered by our transfer agent, American Stock Transfer & Trust Company (AST). The Plan provides registered stockholders and interested first time investors an affordable alternative for buying, selling, and reinvesting in Adams Express shares.

The costs to participants in administrative service fees and brokerage commissions for each type of transaction are listed below.

Initial Enrollment and Optional Cash Investments

Service Fee \$2.50 per investment Brokerage Commission \$0.05 per share

Reinvestment of Dividends\*

Service Fee 2% of amount invested (maximum of \$2.50 per investment)
Brokerage Commission \$0.05 per share

Sale of Shares

Service Fee \$10.00 Brokerage Commission \$0.05 per share

Deposit of Certificates for safekeeping \$7.50 Book to Book Transfers Included

To transfer shares to another participant or to a new participant

Fees are subject to change at any time.

#### **Minimum and Maximum Cash Investments**

Initial minimum investment (non-holders) \$500.00 Minimum optional investment

(existing holders) \$50.00

Electronic Funds Transfer

(monthly minimum)\$50.00Maximum per transaction\$25,000.00Maximum per yearNONE

A brochure which further details the benefits and features of INVESTORS CHOICE as well as an enrollment form may be obtained by contacting AST.

## For Non-Registered Stockholders

For stockholders whose stock is held by a broker in "street" name, the AST INVESTORS CHOICE Direct Stock Purchase and Sale Plan remains available through many registered investment security dealers. If your shares are currently held in a "street" name or brokerage account, please contact your broker for details about how you can participate in AST's Plan or contact AST.

# The Company The Adams Express Company

Lawrence L. Hooper, Jr.
Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
Seven St. Paul Street, Suite 1140, Baltimore, MD 21202
(800) 638-2479

Website: www.adamsexpress.com E-mail: contact@adamsexpress.com

# The Transfer Agent American Stock Transfer & Trust Company

Address Stockholder Inquiries to:

Stockholder Relations Department 59 Maiden Lane New York, NY 10038 (877) 260-8188

Website: www.amstock.com *E-mail:* info@amstock.com

# Investors Choice Mailing Address:

Attention: Dividend Reinvestment

P.O. Box 922 Wall Street Station New York, NY 10269-0560 Website: www.amstock.com E-mail: info@amstock.com

\*The year-end dividend and capital gain distribution will usually be made in newly issued shares of common stock. There are no fees or commissions in connection with this dividend and capital gain distribution when made in newly issued shares.