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NASDAQ  
  
0001204823  
Officer

VeriSign, Inc.  
0001014473  
94-3221585

12/31/02  
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UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 5  
ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check box if no longer subject to Section 16.  
Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Form 3 Holdings Reported

Form 4 Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person(s)  
Mitchell, W.G. Champion  
487 East Middlefield Road

Mountain View, CA 94043

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
VeriSign, Inc. (VRSN)

3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (Voluntary)

4. Statement for Month/Year  
12/02

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Executive Vice President and  
General Manager, MMD

7. 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	2) Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/Year)	3. Trans- action Code Code	4. Securities Acquired(A) or Disposed of (D) A or D Price	5) Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	6) D or I	7) Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
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Table II (PART 1) Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (Columns 1 through 6)

1) Title of Derivative Security	2) Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3) Trans- action Date	4) Trans- action Code Code	5) Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) A D	6) Date Exercisable and Expiration Date Exercisable Expiration
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$10.0800	05/24/02	A	75,000	(1) 05/24/09
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$22.7100	02/21/02	A	100,000	(1) 02/21/09
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$47.1700				07/31/08

Table II (PART 2) Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (Columns 1,3 and 7 through 11)

1) Title of Derivative Security	3) Trans- action Date	7) Title and Amount of Underlying Securities Title	8) Price of Deri- vative Security Amount or Number of Shares	9) Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	10) D or I	11) Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	05/24/02	Common Stock	75,000	75,000	D	Direct
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	02/21/02	Common Stock	100,000	100,000	D	Direct
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)		Common Stock	185,000	185,000	D	Direct

Explanation of Responses:

(1)

25% of the total options granted vest and become exercisable one year after the date of grant and thereafter with respect to 6.25% of the shares each quarter until fully vested.

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON

/S/ By: Donald T Rozak Jr, as attorney-in-fact

For: W. G. Champion Mitchell

DATE 02/12/03