## Edgar Filing: ASTA FUNDING INC - Form 8-K

ASTA FUNDING INC Form 8-K September 15, 2005

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

DATE OF REPORT (DATE OF EARLIEST EVENT REPORTED)
September 15, 2005

ASTA FUNDING, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

0-26906
22-3388607
------(Commission File Number)
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 201-567-5648

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2 below): N/A

|\_| Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act
|\_| Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act
|\_| Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act
|\_| Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act

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On September 15, 2005, Asta Funding, Inc. (NASDAQ: ASFI) issued a press release announcing that its Chairman, Arthur Stern and President and Chief Executive Officer, Gary Stern, have adopted a prearranged stock trading plan in accordance with guidelines specified by Rule 10b5-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Mr. Arthur Stern and Mr. Gary Stern and his affiliates will sell 160,970 shares and 250,000 shares, respectively. The press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto.

Rule 10b5-1 allows programs to be established that permit corporate insiders to prearrange purchases or sales of Company securities at a time when they are not aware of any non-public information. These pre-planned trades will be executed at a later date, over a period of time as set forth in the plans, without further action or oversight by the executives and without regard to any subsequent non-public information the individuals may receive. These plans will allow the executives to continue their estate and tax planning and diversify their investment portfolios. Sales of common stock by Mr. Arthur Stern and Mr. Gary Stern pursuant to the terms of the plan, or otherwise, will be disclosed publicly though Form 144 and Form 4 filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(C) EXHIBITS.

EXHIBIT NO. DESCRIPTION

99.1 Press Release issued by Asta Funding, Inc. on September 15, 2005

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## SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

ASTA FUNDING, INC.

Date: September 15, 2005 By: // Mitchell Cohen

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Mitchell Cohen

Chief Financial Officer