

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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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

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* MADSEN DENNIS F (Last) (First) (Middle) 19300 INTERNATIONAL BOULEVARD SOUTH (Street) SEATTLE WA 98188 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ALASKA AIR GROUP INC [ALK]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/19/2004	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	05/19/2004		J ⁽¹⁾		857	A	\$23.3207 ⁽²⁾	946	D	

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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

Explanation of Responses:

1. Grant of shares in payment of director annual retainer under a plan exempt under 16b-3(d).
2. The acquisition price is the average closing price on the NYSE for the 30 trading days immediately preceding appointment to the Board of Directors.

Remarks:

Shannon K. Alberts, Attorney-in-fact for Dennis F. Madsen 05/20/2004

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

* 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.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.

I hereby authorize Alaska Air Group General Counsel and Corporate Secretary Keith Loveless, Assistant Corporate Secretary Shannon K. Alberts and Assistant Corporate Secretary Irv Bertram to sign on my behalf all Securities & Exchange Commission reports in connection with changes of my beneficial ownership of Alaska Air Group, Inc. securities.

This
Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until revoked by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to such attorney-in-fact.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 2nd day of December, 2003.

Dennis F. Madsen

STATE
OF WASHINGTON

COUNTY OF KING

On this 2nd day of
December, 2003, Dennis F. Madsen personally appeared before me, and acknowledged that he executed the foregoing instrument for the purposes therein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
and official seal.

Wendy Ann Schopf

Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 11/28/06