

MALFITANO RICARDO S
Form 4
March 03, 2009

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
MALFITANO RICARDO S

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O PRAXAIR, INC., 39 OLD
RIDGEBURY ROAD

(Street)

DANBURY, CT 06810-5113

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
PRAXAIR INC [PX]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
02/27/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

___ Director ___ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)

Executive Vice President

6. 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 (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 or (D) Price | | | |
| Common Stock | 02/27/2009 | | M | | 8,747.2 ⁽¹⁾ | A | \$ 0 | 33,243.9883 D |
| Common Stock | 02/27/2009 | | F | | 3,478.7658 ⁽²⁾ | D | \$ 57.705 | 29,765.2225 D |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 2,605.8132 I 401(k) |

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

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number.

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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Performance Share Units (3) | \$ 0 (3) | 02/27/2009 | | A | 8,747.2 | (3) (3) | Common Stock 8,7 |
| Performance Share Units (3) | (3) | 02/27/2009 | | M | 8,747.2 (1) | (3) (3) | Common Stock 8,7 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| MALFITANO RICARDO S C/O PRAXAIR, INC. 39 OLD RIDGEBURY ROAD DANBURY, CT 06810-5113 | | | Executive Vice President | |

Signatures

Anthony M. Pepper,
Attorney-in-Fact
03/03/2009

__Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).
- (1) Shares of common stock acquired pursuant to the payout of a performance share unit grant made on February 27, 2007 (the "PSU").
- (2) Shares of common stock withheld from the PSU payout to cover tax withholdings.
- (3) The PSU vested on February 27, 2009, and the number of shares awarded and paid out was determined based upon the combined financial performance of Praxair, Inc. for 2007 and 2008 measured against financial goals set by the Compensation and Management Development Committee of the Board of Directors.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.