

AIRGAS EAST INC  
Form 8-K  
May 06, 2009

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 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):  
May 5, 2009  
AIRGAS, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

|  |                          |   |
|--|--------------------------|---|
| Delaware   | 1-9344                   | 56-0732648                              |
| (State or other<br>jurisdiction of<br>incorporation) | (Commission File Number) | (I.R.S. Employer<br>Identification No.) |

259 North Radnor-Chester Road, Suite 100  
Radnor, PA 19087-5283

(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (610) 687-5253

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

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425).
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12).
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b)).
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c)).
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Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On May 5, 2009, Airgas, Inc. (the Company ) reported its earnings for its fourth quarter and fiscal year ended March 31, 2009, as described in the press release attached as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

Non-GAAP Measures:

The press release attached as Exhibit 99.1 contains certain financial measures that are not defined under generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Company presented its Free Cash Flow and Adjusted Cash from Operations measures to provide investors meaningful insight into the Company s ability to generate cash from operations, which is available for servicing debt obligations and for the execution of its business strategy, including acquisitions, the prepayment of debt, or to support other investing and financing activities. The Company also provided Return on Capital as a non-GAAP measure, which helps investors assess how effectively the Company uses the capital invested in its operations. Company management also uses Return on Capital as one of the metrics for determining employee compensation.

The Company s intent is to provide non-GAAP financial information to enhance investors understanding of the Company s consolidated financial statements and should be considered by the reader in addition to, but not instead of, the financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP. In addition, it should be noted that the Company s non-GAAP information may be different from the non-GAAP information provided by other companies.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

- (a) None
- (b) None
- (c) None
- (d) Exhibits.

99.1 Press Release dated May 5, 2009

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Signatures

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

AIRGAS, INC.

AIRGAS EAST, INC.

(Registrant)

AIRGAS GREAT LAKES, INC.  
AIRGAS MID AMERICA, INC.  
AIRGAS NORTH CENTRAL, INC.  
AIRGAS SOUTH, INC.

BY: /s/ Thomas M. Smyth

Thomas M. Smyth  
Vice President & Controller

AIRGAS MID SOUTH, INC.  
AIRGAS INTERMOUNTAIN, INC.  
AIRGAS NORPAC, INC.  
AIRGAS NORTHERN CALIFORNIA & NEVADA, INC.  
AIRGAS SOUTHWEST, INC.  
AIRGAS WEST, INC.  
AIRGAS SAFETY, INC.  
AIRGAS CARBONIC, INC.  
AIRGAS SPECIALTY GASES, INC.  
NITROUS OXIDE CORP.  
RED-D-ARC, INC.  
AIRGAS DATA, LLC

(Co-Registrants)

BY: /s/ Thomas M. Smyth  
Thomas M. Smyth  
Vice President

DATED: May 6, 2009