AYER WILLIAM S
Form 4
November 12, 2004

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 *
AYER WILLIAM S

(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]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
11/10/2004

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
(Check all applicable)
_____ Director _____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Chairman, President and CEO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
_X_ 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	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	11/10/2004		A(1)		15,400	A	$ 0	22,700 (2)	D	
Common Stock (3)								3,028	I	ESOP Trust

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

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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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Rt to Buy)	$ 28.06	11/10/2004		A(4)		20,000		11/10/2005	11/10/2014	Common Stock	20,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
AYER WILLIAM S 19300 INTERNATIONAL BOULEVARD SOUTH SEATTLE, WA 98188			Chairman, President and CEO	

Signatures

Shannon K. Alberts for William S. Ayer, Attorney-in-Fact	11/12/2004
**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) Award of restricted stock units granted under the 2004 Long-Term Incentive Equity Plan on November 10, 2004 with a three year cliff vest from the date of grant, subject to forfeiture.

(2) Of the 22,700 shares listed, 7,300 shares were acquired by exercise of stock options on October 9, 2003.

(3) Number of shares owned between the Alaska Airlines and Horizon Air 401(k) retirement plans as of November 8, 2004.

(4) Grant of shares acquired under the Alaska Air Group 2004 Long Term Incentive Plan. This grant vest 25% on each anniversary date for four years.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.
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