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ALASKA AIR GROUP INC Form 8-K May 17, 2005

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

May 16, 2005

(Date of earliest event reported)

ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

1-8957 91-1292054

(Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

19300 Pacific Highway South, Seattle, Washington

98188

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Zip Code)

(206) 392-5040

(Registrant s Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

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):

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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ITEM 8.01. Other Events

On May 13, 2005, Alaska Airlines, Inc. issued the attached release (exhibit 99.1) announcing the contracting out of ramp services at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport with Menzies Aviation. We expect to record a substantial charge for severance and other benefits in the second quarter, the amount of which is currently being evaluated. We expect to disclose this charge in the near future.

Signatures

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

ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC.
Registrant
Date: May 16, 2005
/s/ Brandon S. Pedersen
Brandon S. Pedersen
Staff Vice President/Finance and Controller
/s/ Bradley D. Tilden
Bradley D. Tilden
Executive Vice President/Finance and Chief Financial Officer