

AIRGAS INC
Form S-8
October 26, 2010

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 26, 2010

Registration No. 333-_____

FORM S-8

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

AIRGAS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of

incorporation or organization)

259 North Radnor-Chester Road, Suite 100

Radnor, Pennsylvania 19087

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

56-0732648
(I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

AMENDED AND RESTATED 2003 EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN

(Full title of the plan)

Robert H. Young, Jr., Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

Airgas, Inc.

259 North Radnor-Chester Road

Radnor, Pennsylvania 19087

(610) 687-5253

(Name and address of agent for service, telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

Nancy D. Weisberg, Esquire

McCausland Keen & Buckman

Radnor Court, Suite 160

259 North Radnor-Chester Road

Radnor, Pennsylvania 19087-5257

(610) 341-1000

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company

Calculation of Registration Fee

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Title of securities to be registered ⁽¹⁾	Amount to be registered ⁽²⁾	Proposed maximum offering price per unit ⁽³⁾	Proposed maximum	
			aggregate offering price ⁽³⁾	Amount of registration fee
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value:	2,000,000	\$69.76	\$139,510,000	\$9,947.06

- (1) Includes associated rights (the Rights) to purchase preferred or common stock. Until the occurrence of certain prescribed events, none of which has occurred, the Rights are not exercisable.
- (2) Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), this registration statement is deemed to include such additional shares as may become issuable pursuant to the anti-dilution provisions of the Airgas, Inc. Amended and Restated 2003 Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
- (3) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rules 457(h) and 457(c) under the Securities Act based upon the average of the high and low sale prices of the Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange on October 19, 2010, which was \$69.76 per share.

STATEMENT PURSUANT TO GENERAL INSTRUCTION E

This registration statement on Form S-8 is filed by Airgas, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the Registrant), relating to 2,000,000 shares of its common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the Common Stock), issuable under the Registrant's Amended and Restated 2003 Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

Pursuant to General Instruction E, the contents of Registrant's Form S-8 registration statement, No. 333-107872, filed on August 12, 2003 and Registrant's Form S-8 registration statement, No. 333-136461, filed on August 9, 2006 are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this registration statement, except as amended hereby.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents are incorporated by reference in this registration statement:

- (a) Airgas, Inc.'s (the Company) annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2010, filed pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act);
- (b) The Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2010;
- (c) The Company's current reports on Form 8-K filed since March 31, 2010;
- (d) All other reports filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act since March 31, 2010; and
- (e) The description of the Company's Common Stock contained in Item 1 of the Company's registration statement on Form 8-A filed under the Exchange Act on December 19, 1986.

In addition, all documents subsequently filed by the Company pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, after the date hereof, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered herein have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement and to be part hereof from the date of filing such documents.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

As of October 21, 2010, certain attorneys with McCausland Keen & Buckman, counsel for the Registrant, beneficially owned 25,321 shares of the Registrant's Common Stock.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law (DGCL) permits the Company to indemnify any of its directors or officers against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement, incurred in defense of any action (other than an action by or in the right of the Company) arising by reason of the fact that such person is or was an officer or director of the Company if such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Company and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. Section 145 also permits the Company to indemnify any such officer or director against expenses incurred in an action by or in the right of the Company if such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Company, except in respect of any matter as to which such person is adjudged to be liable to the Company, in which case court approval must be sought for indemnification. This statute requires indemnification of such officers and directors against expenses to the extent they may be successful in defending any such action. This statute provides that it is not exclusive of other indemnification that may be granted by the Company's by-laws, a vote of stockholders or disinterested directors, agreement or otherwise. The statute permits purchase of liability insurance by the Company on behalf of officers and directors. The Company has purchased such insurance.

Article VII of the Company's bylaws requires indemnification to the fullest extent permitted by, and in the manner permissible under, the laws of the State of Delaware to any person made, or threatened to be made, a party to an action or proceeding, whether criminal, civil, administrative or investigative, by reason of the fact that he or she, his or her testator or intestate is, or was, a director or officer of the Company or any predecessor of the Company, or served any other enterprise as a director or officer at the request of the Company or any predecessor of the Company. Indemnification provided for in Article VII is expressly not exclusive of any other rights to which any director or officer may be entitled apart from the provisions of this Article.

Section 102(b)(7) of the DGCL provides that a corporation may eliminate or limit the personal liability of a director to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, provided that such provisions shall not eliminate or limit the liability of a director (i) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders, (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (iii) under Section 174 of the DGCL regarding the unlawful payment of dividends or stock redemptions or repurchases or (iv) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit. No such provision shall eliminate or limit the liability of a director for any act or omission occurring prior to the date when such provision becomes effective.

Article 10 of the Company's Certificate of Incorporation eliminates the liability of directors to the extent permitted by Section 102(b)(7) of the DGCL.

The foregoing statements are subject to the detailed provisions of Sections 145 and 102(b)(7) of the DGCL and the bylaws and Certificate of Incorporation of the Company.

Item 8. Exhibits.

- 4.1 Amended and Restated 2003 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated September 21, 2010).
- 5* Opinion of McCausland Keen & Buckman.
- 23.1* Consent of McCausland Keen & Buckman (included in Exhibit 5).
- 23.2* Consent of KPMG LLP.
- 24* Power of Attorney (see signature page of the registration statement).

* Filed herewith.

Item 9. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission) pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective Registration Statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information

in the registration statement;

Provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) of this section do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, on the 26th day of October, 2010.

AIRGAS, INC.

By: /s/ PETER McCAUSLAND
Peter McCausland, President and Chief

Executive Officer

POWER OF ATTORNEY AND SIGNATURES

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that each individual whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Peter McCausland, Robert H. Young, Jr. and Robert M. McLaughlin, and each of them, his or her true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him or her and in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them, or their, his or her substitutes or substitute, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By: /s/ JOHN C. VAN RODEN, JR. John C. van Roden, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Directors and Director	Date: October 26, 2010
By: /s/ ROBERT M. MCLAUGHLIN Robert M. McLaughlin, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)	Date: October 26, 2010
By: /s/ THOMAS M. SMYTH Thomas M. Smyth, Vice President, Controller (Principal Accounting Officer)	Date: October 26, 2010
By: /s/ JOHN P. CLANCEY John P. Clancey, Director	Date: October 26, 2010
By: /s/ JAMES W. HOVEY James W. Hovey, Director	Date: October 26, 2010
By: /s/ ROBERT L. LUMPKINS Robert L. Lumpkins, Director	Date: October 26, 2010
By: /s/ PETER MCCAUSLAND Peter McCausland, President, CEO and Director	Date: October 26, 2010
By: /s/ TED B. MILLER Ted B. Miller, Director	Date: October 26, 2010
By: /s/ PAULA A. SNEED Paula A. Sneed, Director	Date: October 26, 2010

By: /s/ DAVID M. STOUT
David M. Stout, Director

Date: October 26, 2010

By: /s/ LEE M. THOMAS
Lee M. Thomas, Director

Date: October 26, 2010

By: /s/ ELLEN C. WOLF
Ellen C. Wolf, Director

Date: October 26, 2010

Exhibit Index

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* Filed herewith.