

THOMPSON J KENNETH  
Form 4  
May 17, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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 \*  
THOMPSON J KENNETH

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
ALASKA AIR GROUP INC [ALK]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
19300 INTERNATIONAL BLVD  
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
05/15/2012

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

SEATTLE, WA 98188  
(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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)
COMMON STOCK <sup>(1)</sup>					15,664	D	
DEFERRED STOCK UNIT <sup>(2)</sup>	05/15/2012		A <sup>(3)</sup>	1,368 A	\$ 0 10,672	D	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Beneficially (Instr. 5)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

**Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
THOMPSON J KENNETH 19300 INTERNATIONAL BLVD SEATTLE, WA 98188				

**Signatures**

/s/ Jeanne Gammon Attorney-in-Fact for J. Kenneth Thompson 05/17/2012

\*\*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) ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC. (ALK) COMMON STOCK WAS SPLIT IN A TWO-FOR-ONE TRANSACTION ON MARCH 16, 2012. SHARES AND PRICES HAVE BEEN ADJUSTED TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE SPLIT.
- (2) ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC. (ALK) COMMON STOCK WAS SPLIT IN A TWO-FOR-ONE TRANSACTION ON MARCH 16, 2012. DSUs GRANTED PRIOR TO THIS TRANSACTION HAVE BEEN ADJUSTED TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE SPLIT.
- (3) GRANT OF FULLY VESTED STOCK UNITS UNDER THE ISSUER'S 2008 PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PLAN; PAYABLE IN SHARES OF THE ISSUER'S COMMON STOCK ON A ONE-FOR-ONE BASIS FOLLOWING THE TERMINATION OF THE REPORTING PERSON'S SERVICE ON 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.