ALASKA AIR GROUP INC Form S-8 August 04, 2011

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 4, 2011

Registration No.

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8 REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of 91-1292054 (I.R.S. Employer

Incorporation or Organization)

Identification No.)

19300 International Boulevard

Seattle, Washington 98188

(Address, Including Zip Code, of Principal Executive Offices)

Alaska Air Group, Inc.

2008 Performance Incentive Plan

(Full Title of the Plan)

Keith Loveless

Vice President/Legal and Corporate Affairs,

General Counsel & Corporate Secretary

Alaska Air Group, Inc.

19300 International Boulevard

Seattle, Washington 98188

(206) 392-5040

(Name, Address and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent for Service)

COPY TO:

David Krinsky, Esq.

O Melveny & Myers LLP

610 Newport Center Drive, Suite 1700

Newport Beach, California 92660

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.

Accelerated filer Large accelerated filer x Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| | | Proposed | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| | Amount | Maximum | Proposed | |
| Title of | То Ве | Offering Price | Maximum Aggregate | |
| Securities To Be Registered Common Stock, \$1.00 par value per share | Registered 1,900,000 ⁽¹⁾ shares | Per Share \$58.57 ⁽²⁾ | Offering Price \$111,283,000 ⁽²⁾ | Amount Of Registration Fee \$12,920 ⁽²⁾ |

This Registration Statement covers, in addition to the number of shares of Alaska Air Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the Company or the Registrant), common stock, par value \$1.00 per share (the Common Stock), stated above, options and other rights to purchase or acquire the shares of Common Stock covered by this Registration Statement and, pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), an additional indeterminate number of shares, options and rights that may be offered or issued pursuant to the Alaska Air Group, Inc. 2008 Performance Incentive Plan (the Plan) as a result of one or more adjustments under the Plan to prevent dilution resulting from one or more stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions.

Pursuant to Securities Act Rule 457(h), the maximum offering price, per share and in the aggregate, and the registration fee were calculated based upon the average of the high and low prices of the Common Stock on August 2, 2011, as quoted on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Exhibit Index for this Registration Statement is at page 7.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Registration Statement is filed by the Company to register additional securities issuable pursuant to the Plan and consists of only those items required by General Instruction E to Form S-8.

PART I

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE

SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

The document(s) containing the information specified in Part I of Form S-8 will be sent or given to participants as specified by Securities Act Rule 428(b)(1).

2

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference

The following documents of the Company filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission) are incorporated herein by reference:

- (a) The Company s Registration Statement on Form S-8, filed with the Commission on June 18, 2008 (Commission File No. 333-151743);
- (b) The Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K for its fiscal year ended December 31, 2010, filed with the Commission on February 23, 2011 (Commission File No. 001-08957);
- (c) The Company s Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for its fiscal quarters ended March 31, 2011 and June 30, 2011, filed with the Commission on May 4, 2011 (as amended by the Form 10-Q/A filed with the Commission on August 2, 2011), and August 4, 2011, respectively (each, Commission File No. 001-08957);
- (d) The Company s Current Reports on Form 8-K, filed with the Commission on January 6, 2011 (with respect to Item 8.01 only), January 28, 2011, February 11, 2011, February 11, 2011 (second filing), April 5, 2011 (with respect to Item 8.01 only), May 6, 2011, May 20, 2011, June 13, 2011 (with respect to Item 8.01 only) and June 23, 2011 (each, Commission File No. 001-08957); and
- (e) The description of the Company s Common Stock contained in its Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed with the Commission on September 19, 1985, and any other amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents subsequently filed by the Company pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered hereby have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents; provided, however, that documents or information deemed to have been furnished and not filed in accordance with Commission rules shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement. Any statement contained herein or in a document, all or a portion of which is incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein, shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or amended, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits

See the attached Exhibit Index at page 7, which is incorporated herein by reference.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, 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 Form S-8 Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Seattle, State of Washington, on August 3, 2011.

ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC.

By: /s/ William S. Ayer
William S. Ayer
President and Chief Executive Officer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints William S. Ayer and Brandon S. Pedersen, and each of them, acting individually and without the other, as his or her true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, 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, exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith) to this Registration Statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the 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 either of them individually, or their or his substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, this Registration Statement has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature

Title

Date

/s/ William S. Ayer

Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer
William S. Ayer

(Principal Executive Officer)

/s/ Brandon S. Pedersen

Vice President/Finance and Chief Financial Officer
Brandon S. Pedersen

(Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)

| /s/ Patricia M. Bedient Patricia M. Bedient | Director | August 3, 2011 |
|--|----------|----------------|
| /s/ Marion C. Blakey Marion C. Blakey | Director | August 3, 2011 |
| /s/ Phyllis J. Campbell Phyllis J. Campbell | Director | August 3, 2011 |
| /s/ Jessie J. Knight, Jr. Jessie J. Knight, Jr. | Director | August 3, 2011 |
| /s/ R. Marc Langland R. Marc Langland | Director | August 3, 2011 |
| /s/ Dennis F. Madsen Dennis F. Madsen | Director | August 3, 2011 |
| /s/ Byron I. Mallott Byron I. Mallott | Director | August 3, 2011 |
| /s/ J. Kenneth Thompson J. Kenneth Thompson | Director | August 3, 2011 |
| /s/ Bradley D. Tilden Bradley D. Tilden | Director | August 3, 2011 |

EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit | |
|---------|--|
| Number | Description of Exhibit |
| 4. | Alaska Air Group, Inc. 2008 Performance Incentive Plan. (Filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on May 20, 2011 (Commission File No. 001-08957) and incorporated herein by this reference.) |
| 5. | Opinion of O Melveny & Myers LLP (opinion re legality). |
| 23.1 | Consent of KPMG LLP (consent of independent registered public accounting firm). |
| 23.2 | Consent of Counsel (included in Exhibit 5). |
| 24. | Power of Attorney (included in this Registration Statement under Signatures). |