ALASKA AIR GROUP INC Form 8-K March 13, 2008

# 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

March 13, 2008

(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 (Commission File Number) 91-1292054 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

19300 International Boulevard, Seattle, Washington (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

98188 (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):

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

#### ITEM 8.01 Other Events.

On March 13, 2008, the Board of Directors of Alaska Air Group, Inc. (the Company ), authorized the Company to repurchase up to \$50 million of its common stock. A copy of the press release announcing the authorization of the stock repurchase program is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

#### ITEM 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibit 99.1 Press Release dated March 13, 2008.

#### **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: March 13, 2008

/s/ Brandon S. Pedersen Brandon S. Pedersen Vice President/Finance and Controller

/s/ Bradley D. Tilden
Bradley D. Tilden
Executive Vice President/Finance and Planning and Chief
Financial Officer