Hooper Max D
Form 4
May 23, 2006

FORM 4

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

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

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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Hooper Max D

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O AIRGAS, INC., 259 N. RADNOR-CHESTER RD, STE. 100

(Street)

RADNOR, PA 19087

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
AIRGAS INC [ARG]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
05/23/2006

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

_____ Director _____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Division President-West

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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			

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

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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	2. Conversion or Exercise	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8 D S

(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)							(I
			Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	$ 36.17	05/23/2006	A		15,800		(1)	05/23/2016	Common Stock	15,800	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Hooper Max D C/O AIRGAS, INC. 259 N. RADNOR-CHESTER RD, STE. 100 RADNOR, PA 19087			Division President-West	

Signatures

Dean Bertolino, Attorney-in-Fact for Max Hooper	05/23/2006
**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) Options become exercisable in 25% equal increments on each of 5/23/2007, 5/23/2008, 5/23/2009 and 5/23/2010.

(2) Not applicable.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.
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