

MALFITANO RICARDO S  
 Form 4  
 February 24, 2011

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2005  
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 \*  
**MALFITANO RICARDO S**

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**C/O PRAXAIR, INC., 39 OLD RIDGEBURY ROAD**  
 (Street)

**DANBURY, CT 06810-5113**

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**PRAXAIR INC [PX]**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**02/22/2011**

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
**Executive Vice President**

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	02/23/2011		F	287 (1) D	\$ 97 35,206.8403 (2)	D	
Common Stock					2,695.8102	I	401(k)

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

**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	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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 97.84	02/22/2011		A	57,720	02/22/2012 <sup>(3)</sup> 02/22/2021	Common Stock 57
Deferred Stock	\$ 0 <sup>(4)</sup>	02/24/2011		A	145.5872	<sup>(5)</sup> <sup>(5)</sup>	Common Stock 145

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
MALFITANO RICARDO S C/O PRAXAIR, INC. 39 OLD RIDGEBURY ROAD DANBURY, CT 06810-5113			Executive Vice President	

## Signatures

Anthony M. Pepper,  
 Attorney-in-Fact

02/24/2011

\*\*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) Shares withheld for payment of taxes in connection with the portion vesting of a previously reported restricted stock unit grant.
- (2) This total includes shares previously acquired through automatic dividend reinvestment under the Praxair Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan.
- (3) This option vests over three years in three consecutive equal annual installments beginning on February 22, 2012.
- (4) Conversion to Praxair Common Stock is on a 1-for-1 basis.
- (5) Deferred stock units acquired under the Praxair, Inc. Compensation Deferral Program as amended ("Deferred Program") and are to be settled in Praxair Common Stock.

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.