

Menezes Eduardo F
 Form 4
 March 06, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 Menezes Eduardo F

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O PRAXAIR, INC., 30 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)
 03/02/2012

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | Code | V | Amount (A) or (D) Price | | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 1,812.7996 | I | 401(k) |
| Common Stock | 03/02/2012 | | M | | 7,807 (1) | A | \$ 0 |
| Common Stock | 03/02/2012 | | F | | 3,187 (3) | D | \$ 109.88 |
| | | | | | 15,935.0859 (2) | D | |
| | | | | | 12,748.0859 (2) | D | |

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

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number.

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) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|
| Performance Share Units (4) | \$ 0 (4) | 03/02/2012 | | A | 7,807 | (4) (4) | Common Stock | 7,807 |
| Performance Share Units (4) | (4) | 03/02/2012 | | M | 7,807 (1) | (4) (4) | Common Stock | 7,807 (1) |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Menezes Eduardo F C/O PRAXAIR, INC. 30 OLD RIDGEBURY ROAD DANBURY, CT 06810-5113 | | | Executive Vice President | |

Signatures

Anthony M. Pepper,
Attorney-in-Fact

03/06/2012

__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) Shares of common stock acquired pursuant to the payout of a performance share unit grant made on February 24, 2009 (the "PSU").
- (2) This total includes shares previously acquired through automatic dividend reinvestment under the Praxair Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan and unvested restricted stock units.
- (3) Shares of common stock withheld from the PSU payout to cover tax withholdings.
- (4) The PSU paid out on March 2, 2012 and the number of shares awarded and paid out was determined based upon the cumulative earnings per share ("EPS") of Praxair, Inc. from 2009 - 2011 measured against EPS goals set by the Compensation and Management Development Committee of the Board of Directors when the PSU was granted in 2009.

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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