

AIRGAS INC
Form 8-K
January 26, 2012
**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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): January 26, 2012

AIRGAS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware	1-9344	56-0732648
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**259 North Radnor-Chester Road, Suite 100
Radnor, PA 19087-5283**

(Address of principal executive offices)

(610) 687-5253

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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:

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 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On January 26, 2012, Airgas, Inc. (the “Company”) reported its earnings for its third quarter ended December 31, 2011, as described in the press release attached as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

The information contained in this Form 8-K report shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

Non-GAAP Measures:

The press release attached as Exhibit 99.1 contains certain financial measures that are not defined under generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”). The Company presented its Adjusted Earnings per Diluted Share metric to provide investors meaningful insight into the Company’s earnings performance without the impact of Business Support Center restructuring charges and related costs, asset impairment charges, costs and benefits related to Air Products’ unsolicited takeover attempt, multi-employer pension plan withdrawal charges, a one-time interest penalty, and debt extinguishment charges. The Company presented Adjusted Operating Margin computations to help investors assess the Company’s operating performance without the impact of Business Support Center restructuring charges and related costs, asset impairment charges, costs and benefits related to Air Products’ unsolicited takeover attempt, and multi-employer pension plan withdrawal charges. The Company presented Free Cash Flow and Adjusted Cash From Operations to provide investors meaningful insight into the Company’s ability to generate cash from operations without the impact of cash used related to Air Products’ unsolicited takeover attempt and multi-employer pension plan withdrawals, which is available for servicing debt obligations and for the execution of its business strategies, including acquisitions, the repayment of debt, the payment of dividends, or to support other investing and financing activities. The Company presented Return on Capital to help investors assess how effectively the Company uses the capital invested in its operations.

The Company’s intent is to provide non-GAAP financial information to enhance investors’ understanding of the Company’s consolidated financial statements and should be considered by the reader in addition to, but not instead of, the financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP. In addition, it should be noted that the Company’s non-GAAP information may be different from the non-GAAP information provided by other companies.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

- (a) None
- (b) None
- (c) None
- (d) Exhibits.

99.1 - Press Release dated January 26, 2012

SIGNATURE

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 hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: January 26, 2012 AIRGAS, INC.

(Registrant)

BY: /s/ Thomas M. Smyth

Thomas M. Smyth

Vice President & Controller

(Principal Accounting

Officer)

Exhibit Index

Exhibit 99.1 Press Release dated January 26, 2012