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AIRGAS INC Form 8-K April 23, 2002

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): April 23, 2002

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)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (610) 687-5253

Item 5. Other Events.

Airgas, Inc. entered into a settlement agreement with Praxair, Inc. resolving a suit filed against Airgas by Praxair in July 1996. The April 23, 2002 press release announcing the settlement is attached as Exhibit 99 and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits

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

99 - Press Release dated April 23, 2002

Signatures

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant and Co-Registrants have duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

AIRGAS, INC. (Registrant)

BY:/s/ Robert M. McLaughlin Robert M. McLaughlin Vice President & Controller AIRGAS EAST, INC.

AIRGAS GREAT LAKES, INC.

AIRGAS MID AMERICA, INC.

AIRGAS NORTH CENTRAL, INC.

AIRGAS SOUTH, INC.

AIRGAS GULF STATES, INC.

AIRGAS MID SOUTH, INC.

AIRGAS INTERMOUNTAIN, INC.

AIRGAS NORPAC, INC.

AIRGAS SAFETY, INC.

AIRGAS NORTHERN CALIFORNIA & NEVADA, INC.

AIRGAS SOUTHWEST, INC. AIRGAS WEST, INC.

RUTLAND TOOL & SUPPLY CO., INC.

AIRGAS CARBONIC, INC.

AIRGAS SPECIALTY GASES, INC.

NITROUS OXIDE CORP.

PURITAN MEDICAL PRODUCTS, INC.

RED-D-ARC, INC. AIRGAS REALTY, INC.

ATNL, INC.

AIRGAS DATA, LLC

(Co-Registrants)

BY:/s/ Robert M. McLaughlin Robert M. McLaughlin Vice President

DATED: April 23, 2002