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PEDERSEN BRANDON

Form 4

February 14, 2018

FORM 4

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Expires:

OMB APPROVAL

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

January 31, 2005

0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

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

burden hours per response...

Estimated average

See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * PEDERSEN BRANDON | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC. [ALK] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| (Last) 19300 INTERI | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/13/2018 | Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below) EXEC VP/FINANCE & CFO | | |
| | (Street) | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person | | |
| SEATTLE, WA 98188 | | | | Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | |

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 6. 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Securities Ownership Indirect (Instr. 3) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Code Beneficially Form: Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned Direct (D) Ownership Following or Indirect (Instr. 4) Reported (T)

| | | Code V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------|------------|--------|--------------|------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| COMMON STOCK (3) | 02/13/2018 | A(4) | 11,085 | A | \$ 0 | 32,793 | D |
| COMMON STOCK (3) | 02/13/2018 | A(5) | 1,292 | A | \$ 0 | 34,085 | D |
| COMMON STOCK (3) | 02/13/2018 | F(6) | 3,988 (7) | D | \$ 66.89 | 30,097 | D |
| COMMON STOCK (3) | 02/13/2018 | F(6) | 509 (7) | D | \$ 66.89 | 29,588 | D |

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

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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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and A Underlying Se (Instr. 3 and 4 |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title |
| RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS | \$ 0 | 02/13/2018 | | A | 4,560 | 02/13/2021(1) | 02/13/2028 | COMMON STOCK |
| EMPLOYEE STOCK OPTION (RT TO BUY) | \$ 66.89 | 02/13/2018 | | A | 17,660 | 02/13/2019(2) | 02/13/2028 | COMMON STOCK |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

PEDERSEN BRANDON 19300 INTERNATIONAL BLVD SEATTLE, WA 98188

EXEC VP/FINANCE & CFO

Signatures

/S/ JEANNE E. GAMMON, ATTORNEY IN FACT FOR BRANDON S. PEDERSEN

02/14/2018

**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) RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS CLIFF VEST 3 YEARS FROM GRANT AND CONVERT INTO COMMON STOCK ON A ONE-FOR-ONE-BASIS.
- (2) OPTIONS VEST IN 25% INCREMENTS OVER FOUR YEARS (02/13/2019, 02/13/2020, 02/13/2021 and 02/13/2022).

(3)

Reporting Owners 2

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TOTAL HELD IN COLUMN 5 INCLUDES 3,050 UNVESTED RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS GRANTED ON 2/9/2016 UNDER THE ISSUER'S 2008 PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PLAN.

- (4) COMMON SHARES ISSUED UPON ATTAINING PERFORMANCE GOALS SET FOR A THREE-YEAR PERIOD ENDING 12/31/17 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF A PERFORMANCE STOCK UNIT AWARD GRANTED ON 2/10/2015 UNDER THE ISSUER'S 2008 PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PLAN; PER APPROVAL BY THE BOARD'S COMPENSATION COMMITTEE ON 2/13/2018.
 - COMMON SHARES ISSUED UPON ATTAINING PERFORMANCE GOALS SET FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD ENDING 12/31/17 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF A PERFORMANCE STOCK UNIT AWARD GRANTED ON 3/7/2017 UNDER THE
- (5) ISSUER'S 2016 PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PLAN; PER APPROVAL BY THE BOARD'S COMPENSATION COMMITTEE ON 2/13/2018
- (6) SHARES FORFEITED TO COVER PAYROLL TAXES UPON VESTING OF PERFORMANCE STOCK UNITS ON 2/13/2018.
- (7) PRICE PROVIDED IN COLUMN 4 REPRESENTS THE FMV OF ALK SHARES ON THE DATE SHARES WERE FORFEITED FOR TAXES.

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.