PRAXAIR INC Form 3 August 06, 2008

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

3235-0104

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, response...
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 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement PRAXAIR INC [PX] White Matthew J (Month/Day/Year) 08/01/2008 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) C/O PRAXAIR, INC., 39 OLD (Check all applicable) RIDGEBURY ROAD (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group 10% Owner Director _X__ Officer Other Filing(Check Applicable Line) (give title below) (specify below) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Vice President and Controller Person DANBURY, Â CTÂ 06810-5113 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 5) (Instr. 4) Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Common Stock 274.6868 I 401(k)Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of

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Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative	2. Date Exercisable and	3. Title and Amount of	4.	5.	6. Nature of Indirect
Security	Expiration Date	Securities Underlying	Conversion	Ownership	Beneficial
(Instr. 4)	(Month/Day/Year)	Derivative Security	or Exercise	Form of	Ownership
		(Instr. 4)	Price of	Derivative	(Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Title	Derivative	Security:	
			Security	Direct (D)	

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		Expiration Date		Amount or Number of Shares		or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Stock Option (right to buy)	02/22/2006(1)	02/22/2015	Common Stock	12,000	\$ 44.25	D	Â
Stock Option (right to buy)	02/28/2007(2)	02/29/2016	Common Stock	20,000	\$ 53.98	D	Â
Stock Option (right to buy)	02/27/2008(3)	02/27/2017	Common Stock	20,000	\$ 61.47	D	Â
Stock Option (right to buy)	02/26/2009(4)	02/26/2018	Common Stock	7,200	\$ 83.89	D	Â
Stock Option (right to buy)	02/26/2009(4)	02/26/2018	Common Stock	10,800	\$ 83.89	D	Â
Deferred Stock	(5)	(5)	Common Stock	8.873	\$ 0 (6)	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
White Matthew J C/O PRAXAIR, INC. 39 OLD RIDGEBURY ROAD DANBURY, CT 06810-5113	Â	Â	Vice President and Controller	Â	

Signatures

Anthony M. Pepper, Attorney-in-Fact 08/05/2008

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) The option vests in three consecutive equal annual installments beginning on February 22, 2006.
- (2) The option vests in three consecutive equal annual installments beginning on February 28 2007.
- (3) The option vests in three consecutive equal annual installments beginning on February 27, 2008.
- (4) The option vests in three consecutive equal annual installments beginning on February 26, 2009.
- (5) Deferred stock units acquired under the 1993 Praxair, Inc. Compensation Deferral Program as amended and are to be settled in Praxair Common Stock.
- (6) Conversion to Praxair Common Stock is on a 1-for-1 basis.

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.

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