

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF PERSON
STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, TRUSTEE/CO-TRUSTEE 04-1867445
VARIOUS TRUST ACCOUNTS AIR PRODUCTS
2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP.*

NOT APPLICABLE A ___
B ___
3. SEC USE ONLY
4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
5. SOLE VOTING POWER
323,170 SHARES
6. SHARED VOTING POWER
87,326 SHARES
7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
278,535 SHARES
8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
131,961 SHARES
9. AGGREGATED AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
410,496 SHARES
10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN
SHARES*
NOT APPLICABLE
11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
.3%
12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*
BK

ITEM 1.

- (A) NAME OF ISSUER
AIR PRODUCTS AND CHEMICALS, INC.
- (B) ADDRESS OF ISSUER'S PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES
7201 HAMILTON BLVD.
ALLENTOWN PA 18195-1501

ITEM 2.

- (A) NAME OF PERSON FILING
STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, TRUSTEE
- (B) ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OFFICE OR, IF NONE,
RESIDENCE

225 FRANKLIN STREET, BOSTON, MA 02110
- (C) CITIZENSHIP

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
- (D) TITLE CLASS OF SECURITIES
COMMON
- (E) CUSIP NUMBER
009158106

ITEM 3. IF THIS STATEMENT IS FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13D-1(B), OR
13D-2(B), CHECK WHETHER THE PERSON FILING IS A:

- (B) BANK AS DEFINED IN SECTION 3(A)(6) OF THE ACT

ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP

- (A) AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED
7,206,809 SHARES
- (B) PERCENT OF CLASS
6.1%
- (C) NUMBER OF SHARES AS TO WHICH SUCH PERSON HAS:
 - (I) SOLE POWER TO VOTE OR TO DIRECT THE VOTE
1,451,312 SHARES
 - (II) SHARED POWER TO VOTE OR TO DIRECT THE VOTE
5,647,297 SHARES
 - (III) SOLE POWER TO DISPOSE OR TO DIRECT THE DISPOSITION OF
1,514,877 SHARES
 - (IV) SHARED POWER TO DISPOSE OR TO DIRECT THE DISPOSITION OF
5,691,932 SHARES

ITEM 5. OWNERSHIP OF FIVE PERCENT OR LESS OF A CLASS

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON.

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 7. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUBSIDIARY WHICH ACQUIRED THE SECURITY BEING REPORTED ON BY THE PARENT HOLDING COMPANY

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 9. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF GROUP

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION

THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATION SHALL BE INCLUDED IF THE STATEMENT IS FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13D-1(B) :

BY SIGNING BELOW I CERTIFY THAT, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, THE SECURITIES REFERRED TO ABOVE WERE ACQUIRED IN THE ORDINARY COURSE OF BUSINESS AND WERE NOT ACQUIRED FOR THE PURPOSE OF AND DO NOT HAVE THE EFFECT OF CHANGING OR INFLUENCING THE CONTROL OF THE ISSUER OF SUCH SECURITIES AND WERE NOT ACQUIRED IN CONNECTION WITH OR AS A PARTICIPANT IN ANY TRANSACTION HAVING SUCH PURPOSES OR EFFECT.

THIS REPORT IS NOT AN ADMISSION THAT STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY IS THE BENEFICIAL OWNER OF ANY SECURITIES COVERED BY THIS REPORT, AND STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF ALL SHARES REPORTED HEREIN PURSUANT TO RULE 13D-4.

SIGNATURE

AFTER REASONABLE INQUIRY AND TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION SET FORTH IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE, COMPLETE AND CORRECT.

10 FEBRUARY 1998

STATE STREET BOSTON CORPORATION
STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY,
TRUSTEE

/s/ Mary Sue Spain
Senior Compliance Officer