

SCHEDULE 13G

UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
(AMENDMENT NO.) *

AIR PRODUCTS AND CHEMICALS, INC.
(NAME OF ISSUER)
COMMON
(TITLE CLASS OF SECURITIES)
009158106
(CUSIP NUMBER)

CHECK THE FOLLOWING BOX IF A FEE IS BEING PAID WITH THIS STATEMENT. _____ (A FEE IS NOT REQUIRED ONLY IF THE FILING PERSON: (1) HAS A PREVIOUS STATEMENT ON FILE REPORTING BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT OF THE CLASS OF SECURITIES DESCRIBED IN ITEM 1; AND (2) HAS FILED NO AMENDMENT SUBSEQUENT THERETO REPORTING BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF FIVE PERCENT OR LESS OF SUCH CLASS.) (SEE RULE 13D-7).

*THE REMAINDER OF THIS COVER PAGE SHALL BE FILLED OUT FOR A REPORTING PERSON'S INITIAL FILING ON THIS FORM WITH RESPECT TO THE SUBJECT CLASS OF SECURITIES, AND FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENT CONTAINING INFORMATION WHICH WOULD ALTER THE DISCLOSURES PROVIDED IN A PRIOR COVER PAGE.

THE INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REMAINDER OF THIS COVER PAGE SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO BE "FILED" FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECTION 18 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 ("ACT") OR OTHERWISE SUBJECT TO THE LIABILITIES OF THAT SECTION OF THE ACT BUT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ALL OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE ACT (HOWEVER, SEE THE NOTES).

CUSIP NO. 009158106 13G PAGE 2 OF 5 PAGES

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON

S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF PERSON
STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, TRUSTEE 04-1867445
AIR PRODUCTS AND CHEMICALS, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS AND STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN

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

0 SHARES

6. SHARED VOTING POWER

5,531,409 SHARES

7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

0 SHARES

8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

5,531,409 SHARES

9. AGGREGATED AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

5,531,409 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

4.6 %

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

BK

CUSIP NO. 009158106

13G

PAGE 2A OF 5 PAGES

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON

S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF PERSON

STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, TRUSTEE 04-1867445

OR DISCRETIONARY ADVISOR VARIOUS COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT FUNDS FOR

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS AND OTHER INDEX 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

1,013,016 SHARES

6. SHARED VOTING POWER

0 SHARES

7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

1,184,916 SHARES

8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

0 SHARES

9. AGGREGATED AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

1,184,916 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

1.0%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

BK

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
259,122 SHARES
6. SHARED VOTING POWER
73,916 SHARES
7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
216,817 SHARES
8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
116,221 SHARES
9. AGGREGATED AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
333,038 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
7,049,363 SHARES
- (B) PERCENT OF CLASS
5.9%
- (C) NUMBER OF SHARES AS TO WHICH SUCH PERSON HAS:
 - (I) SOLE POWER TO VOTE OR TO DIRECT THE VOTE
1,272,138 SHARES
 - (II) SHARED POWER TO VOTE OR TO DIRECT THE VOTE
5,605,325 SHARES
 - (III) SOLE POWER TO DISPOSE OR TO DIRECT THE DISPOSITION OF
1,401,733 SHARES
 - (IV) SHARED POWER TO DISPOSE OR TO DIRECT THE DISPOSITION OF
5,647,630 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 1997

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

/s/ JANET DENNEEN
SENIOR COMPLIANCE OFFICER