

Whitehurst James M
Form 4
December 23, 2005

FORM 4

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

Check this box
if no longer
subject to
Section 16.
Form 4 or
Form 5
obligations
may continue.
See Instruction
1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF
SECURITIES**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Whitehurst James M

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol
DELTA AIR LINES INC /DE/
[DALRQ.PK]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
DELTA AIR LINES, INC., DEPT.
981, P.O. BOX 20574

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/23/2005

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
X Officer (give title ____ Other (specify
below) below)
Chief Operating Officer

(Street)
ATLANTA, GA 30320

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
____ 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 Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	12/23/2005		D ⁽¹⁾		3,787	D	\$ 0
					11,844	D	

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of
information contained in this form are not
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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)

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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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 6)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title Amount or Number of Shares	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Whitehurst James M DELTA AIR LINES, INC., DEPT. 981 P.O. BOX 20574 ATLANTA, GA 30320			Chief Operating Officer	

Signatures

Nanci Oliver Sloan as attorney-in-fact for James M. Whitehurst

12/23/2005

****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) On December 22, 2005, the reporting person held 3,787 shares of restricted stock which were granted to him under the Delta 2000 Performance Compensation Plan on January 1, 2002, in connection with his joining Delta. Pursuant to the terms of the award, the restrictions on these shares would have lapsed on January 1, 2006, subject to the reporting person remaining employed by Delta on that date. On December 23, 2005, the reporting person voluntarily and irrevocably relinquished his right to all of these shares.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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