

REPUBLIC AIRWAYS HOLDINGS INC  
Form SC 13D  
June 04, 2004

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, DC 20549**

**SCHEDULE 13D**  
Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
(Amendment No. \_\_)\*

Republic Airways Holdings Inc.

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(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, \$.001 per share par value

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(Title of Class of Securities)

760276 10 5

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(CUSIP Number)

Gregory L. Riggs, Esquire  
Senior Vice President General Counsel  
Delta Air Lines, Inc.  
Dept. 981  
P.O. Box 20574  
Atlanta, GA 30320  
(404) 715-2600

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(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications)

May 26, 2004

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(Date of Event which Requires Filing of this Statement)

If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition that is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this schedule because of Sections 240.13d-1(e), 240.13d-1(f) or 240.13d-1(g), check the following box. ☐

**Note:** Schedules filed in paper format shall include a signed original and five copies of the schedule, including all exhibits. See Section 240.13d-7(b) for other parties to whom copies are to be sent.

\*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 disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on 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).

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**1** NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

**Delta Air Lines, Inc. (I.R.S. Identification No.: 58-0218548)**

**2** CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP\* (a) ☐  
(b) ☐

**3** SEC USE ONLY

**4** SOURCE OF FUNDS\*  
WC

**5** CHECK BOX IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEMS 2(d) or 2(e) ☐

**6** CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION  
Delaware

**NUMBER OF** **7** **SOLE VOTING POWER**  
**SHARES** **4,500,000<sup>(1)</sup>**

**BENEFICIALLY** **8** **SHARED VOTING POWER**  
**OWNED BY** **0**

**EACH** **9** **SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER**  
**REPORTING** **4,500,000<sup>(1)</sup>**

**PERSON** **10** **SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER**  
**WITH** **0**

**11** AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  
**4,500,000<sup>(1)</sup>**

**12** CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES\* ☐

**13** PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11)  
**15.0%<sup>(2)</sup>**

**14** TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON\*  
CO

**\*SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT**

<sup>(1)</sup> Represents shares of common stock that the Reporting Person may acquire upon the exercise of warrants to purchase Common Stock, all of which are currently exercisable.

<sup>(2)</sup> The percentage reflects the relationship of the number of shares of Common Stock of the Issuer that the Reporting Person beneficially owns bears to the 25,450,000 shares of the Common Stock outstanding at June 1, 2004 upon the completion of the Issuer's initial public offering (as reported in the Issuer's Final Prospectus filed under Rule 424(b)(4) on May 27, 2004) plus 4,500,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of the warrants held by the Reporting Person.

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**Item 1. Security and Issuer**

This statement relates to the common stock, par value \$.001 per share ( Common Stock ), of Republic Airways Holdings Inc., a Delaware corporation ( Republic ). The address of the principal executive offices of Republic is 2500 S. High School Road, Suite 160, Indianapolis, Indiana 46241.

**Item 2. Identity and Background**

(a)-(c), (f) Delta Air Lines, Inc., a Delaware corporation ( Delta ), is a major air carrier that provides scheduled air transportation for passengers and cargo throughout the United States and around the world. As of May 1, 2004, Delta (including its wholly owned subsidiaries, Atlantic Southeast Airlines, Inc. and Comair, Inc.) served 206 domestic cities in 46 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as 47 international cities in 31 countries. Delta mainline, domestic and international service, Song®, Delta Express, Delta Shuttle®, Delta Connection®, Delta SkyTeam®, and Worldwide Partners operate 7,675 flights each day to over 497 cities in 86 countries.

The name, business address and present principal occupation of each of the directors and executive officers of Delta are set forth on Schedule I hereto. Each director and executive officer of Delta is a citizen of the United States of America.

(d)-(e) Neither Delta nor, to the best of its knowledge, any of its directors or officers has during the last five years been (i) convicted in a criminal proceeding (excluding minor traffic violations or similar misdemeanors) or (ii) a party to a civil proceeding of a judicial or administrative body of competent jurisdiction and as a result of such proceeding was or is subject to a judgment, decree or final order enjoining future violations of, or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws.

**Item 3. Source and Amount of Funds or Other Considerations**

On June 7, 2002, Delta entered into the Delta Connection Agreement (as amended, the Connection Agreement ), with Chautauqua Airlines, Inc., a subsidiary of Republic ( Chautauqua ). In conjunction with the Connection Agreement, Delta received (a) a warrant to purchase up to 1,500,000 shares of Common Stock for \$12.50 per share (the 2002 Warrant ); (b) a warrant to purchase up to 1,500,000 shares of Common Stock at a price per share equal to 95% of Republic's initial public offering (the IPO ) price per share of Common Stock (the IPO Warrant ); (c) the right to purchase up to 5% of the shares of Common Stock offered for sale in the IPO at the IPO public offering price per share; and (d) the right to receive a warrant to purchase up to an additional 60,000 shares of Common Stock for each additional aircraft Chautauqua operates for Delta above the 22 aircraft under the original Connection Agreement.

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The 2002 Warrant became exercisable in whole or in part at any time upon issue and remains exercisable until June 7, 2012. The IPO Warrant became exercisable in whole or in part at any time beginning on the closing date of the IPO, June 2, 2004, at a price per share of \$12.35 and, subject to earlier cancellation or reduction if the Connection Agreement is terminated in certain circumstances or if aircraft are taken out of service in certain circumstances, remains exercisable until June 2, 2014. Delta has waived the right described under (c) above to purchase shares of Common Stock in the IPO.

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In February and October 2003 and March 2004, Delta and Chautauqua amended the Connection Agreement to increase from 22 to 34, then from 34 to 39, and then from 39 to 47, the number of aircraft operated by Chautauqua for Delta. As a result of these amendments and in accordance with the provision of the Connection Agreement described in (d) above, Delta received three new warrants (the 2003 and 2004 Warrants ), as follows:

- on February 7, 2003, a warrant to purchase up to 720,000 shares of Common Stock for (1) \$12.50 per share if exercised prior to the completion of the IPO, or (2) the price per share at which the Common Stock was sold in the IPO if exercised in connection with or after the IPO;
- on October 1, 2003, a warrant to purchase up to 300,000 shares of Common Stock for (1) \$18.00 per share if exercised prior to the completion of the IPO, or (2) 95% of the price per share at which the Common Stock was sold in the IPO if exercised in connection with or after the IPO; and
- on March 10, 2004, a warrant to purchase up to 480,000 shares of Common Stock for (1) \$18.00 per share if exercised prior to the completion of the IPO, or (2) 95% of the price per share at which the Common Stock was sold in the IPO if exercised in connection with or after the IPO.

The 2003 and 2004 Warrants became exercisable in whole or in part immediately upon issue and remain exercisable at any time until ten years from their respective dates of issue. Because Delta did not exercise the 2003 and 2004 Warrants prior to the completion of the IPO, the exercise prices of these warrants are \$13.00, \$12.35, and \$12.35, respectively.

### Item 4. Purpose of Transaction

Delta currently anticipates holding all of the warrants described in Item 3 above for investment purposes. Depending on market conditions and other factors, including an evaluation of Republic's businesses and prospects, availability of funds, alternative uses of funds and general economic conditions, Delta may from time to time exercise its warrants (including pursuant to cashless exercise provisions contained in each of the warrants), hold the shares received upon exercise, acquire additional securities of Republic or dispose of all or a portion of its investment in Republic.

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Except as described in this statement, neither Delta nor, to the best of its knowledge, any of the persons named in Schedule A to this statement presently has any plans or proposals which relate to or would result in any of the following:

- (a) The acquisition by any person of additional securities of Republic, or the disposition of securities of Republic;
- (b) An extraordinary corporate transaction, such as a merger, reorganization or liquidation, involving Republic or any of its subsidiaries;
- (c) A sale or transfer of a material amount of assets of Republic or any of its subsidiaries;
- (d) Any change in the present board of directors or management of Republic, including any plans or proposals to change the number or term of directors or to fill any existing vacancies on the board;
- (e) Any material change in the present capitalization or dividend policy of Republic;
- (f) Any other material change in Republic's business or corporate structure;
- (g) Changes in Republic's charter, bylaws or instruments corresponding thereto or other actions which may impede the acquisition of control of Republic by any person;

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- (h) Causing a class of securities of Republic to be delisted from a national securities exchange or to cease to be authorized to be quoted in an inter-dealer quotation system of a registered national securities association;
- (i) A class of equity securities of Republic becoming eligible for termination of registration pursuant to Section 12(g)(4) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; or
- (j) Any action similar to any of those enumerated above.

Delta is a party to an Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of June 7, 2002, by and among Republic and some of Republic's stockholders and warrant holders, pursuant to which the stockholders and warrant holders have the right in certain circumstances to require Republic to register their shares of common stock for resale under the Securities Act of 1933. Except in limited circumstances, Republic is obligated to pay all expenses in connection with such a registration. A copy of the Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission by Republic and is incorporated herein by reference.

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#### Item 5. Interest in Securities of Issuer

(a)-(b) The 4,500,000 shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by Delta, all of which are shares that Delta has the right to acquire under the warrants described in Item 3 above, represent 15.0% of the 25,450,000 shares of Common Stock outstanding at June 1, 2004 upon the completion of the IPO (as reported in the Issuer's Final Prospectus filed under Rule 424(b)(4) on May 27, 2004) plus 4,500,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of the warrants held by Delta. Delta has the sole voting and dispositive power over all such shares of Common Stock that it has the right to acquire. To Delta's knowledge, none of the persons listed on Schedule I beneficially own any Common Stock.

(c) Other than the transactions described in Item 4 above, neither Delta nor, to the best of Delta's knowledge, any of the individuals listed on Schedule I has effected any transactions in Common Stock during the past 60 days.

(d) No person other than Delta has the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by Delta.

(e) Not applicable.

#### Item 6. Contracts, Arrangements, Understandings or Relationships with Respect to Securities of the Issuer

The information set forth in Items 3 and 4 is incorporated in this Item 6 by reference. Delta has agreed not to offer, pledge, sell, contract to sell, or otherwise dispose of, directly or indirectly, any shares of Common Stock, for a period of 180 days after May 26, 2004, without the prior written consent of Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated. This agreement does not prohibit Delta from exercising its right to acquire any shares of Common Stock under the warrants described in Item 3.

#### Item 7. Material to be Filed as Exhibits

| <u>Exhibit</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|----------------|--------------------|
|----------------|--------------------|

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Delta Connection Agreement, dated June 7, 2002, between Delta and Chautauqua (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.52 to Republic's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, No. 333-84092, as filed on June 20, 2002)

- 2 Amendment Number One, dated February 7, 2003, to Delta Connection Agreement, dated June 7, 2002, between Delta and Chautauqua (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.31(a) to Republic's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, No. 333-84092, as filed on May 6, 2004)

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- 3 Amendment Number Two, dated September 30, 2003, to Delta Connection Agreement, dated June 7, 2002, between Delta and Chautauqua (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.31(b) to Republic's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, No. 333-84092, as filed on March 19, 2004)
- 4 Amendment Number Three, dated March 10, 2004, to Delta Connection Agreement, dated June 7, 2002, between Delta and Chautauqua (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.31(c) to Republic's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, No. 333-84092, as filed on March 19, 2004)
- 5 Agreement, dated June 7, 2002, between Republic and Delta (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.48 to Republic's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, No. 333-84092, as filed on June 20, 2002)
- 6 Amendment Number One, dated October 1, 2003, to Agreement dated June 7, 2002 between Republic and Delta (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.27 to Republic's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, No. 333-84092, as filed on March 19, 2004)
- 7 Amended and Restated Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of June 7, 2002, between Republic, Imprimis Investors, LLC, Wextrum Spectrum Fund I, L.P., Wexford Offshore Spectrum Fund, Wexford Partners Investment Co. LLC, WexAir LLC and Delta (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.15 to Republic's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, No. 333-84092, as filed on June 20, 2002)
- 8 Private Placement Warrant to Purchase Shares of Common Stock of Republic dated June 7, 2002 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.49 to Republic's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, No. 333-84092, as filed on June 20, 2002)
- 9 Form of Warrant to Purchase Shares of Common Stock of Republic (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.50 to Republic's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, No. 333-84092, as filed on June 20, 2002)
- 10 Warrant to Purchase Shares of Common Stock of Republic dated February 7, 2003 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.28(a) to Republic's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, No. 333-84092, as filed on July 3, 2003)
- 11 Warrant to Purchase Shares of Common Stock of Republic dated October 1, 2003 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.28(b) to Republic's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, No. 333-84092, as filed on March 19, 2004)
- 12 Warrant to Purchase Shares of Common Stock of Republic dated March 10, 2004 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.28(c) to Republic's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, No. 333-84092, as filed on March 19, 2004)

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### SIGNATURE

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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.

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

By: /s/ Leslie P. Klemperer

Name: Leslie P. Klemperer

Title: Vice President - Deputy General  
Counsel and Secretary

Dated: June 4, 2004

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#### Schedule I

#### DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

The names, business addresses and present principal occupations or employment of the directors and executive officers of Delta are set forth below. Where no business address is given, such director's or officer's address is Delta Air Lines, Inc., c/o Gregory L. Riggs, Dept. No. 981, P.O. Box 20574, Atlanta, GA 30320. Unless otherwise indicated, the occupation set forth opposite an individual's name refers to Delta. All of the persons listed below are citizens of the United States.

#### DIRECTORS (INCLUDING EXECUTIVE OFFICERS WHO ARE DIRECTORS)

| <u>NAME AND ADDRESS</u> | <u>POSITION WITH DELTA</u>          | <u>PRESENT PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION<br/>(IF OTHER THAN WITH DELTA)</u>                           |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Edward H. Budd          | Director                            | Retired Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of The Travelers Corporation       |
| George M.C. Fisher      | Director                            | Retired Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Eastman Kodak Company           |
| David R. Goode          | Director                            | Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of Norfolk Southern Corporation |
| Gerald Grinstein        | Director<br>Chief Executive Officer |                                                                                              |
| John F. Smith, Jr.      | Director                            | Retired Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of General Motors Corporation      |
| Joan E. Spero           | Director                            | President of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation                                            |

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Larry D. Thompson

Director

Senior Fellow of the Brookings Institution

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EXECUTIVE OFFICERS WHO ARE NOT DIRECTORS

| <u>NAME AND ADDRESS</u> | <u>POSITION WITH DELTA</u>                                                    | <u>PRESENT PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION<br/>(IF OTHER THAN WITH DELTA)</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Vicki B. Escarra        | Executive Vice President and<br>Chief Customer Service Officer                |                                                                    |
| Michael J. Palumbo      | Executive Vice President and<br>Chief Financial Officer                       |                                                                    |
| Joseph C. Kolshak       | Senior Vice President and<br>Chief of Operations                              |                                                                    |
| Lee A. Macenczak        | Senior Vice President and<br>Chief Human Resources Officer                    |                                                                    |
| Paul G. Matsen          | Senior Vice President and<br>Chief Marketing Officer                          |                                                                    |
| Gregory L. Riggs        | Senior Vice President, General Counsel<br>and Chief Corporate Affairs Officer |                                                                    |
| James M. Whitehurst     | Senior Vice President and Chief Network<br>and Planning Officer               |                                                                    |