



## **Airgas Names Fred Manley Vice President - Technology and Services Markets**

**RADNOR, PA - March 17, 2011** - Airgas, Inc., (NYSE: ARG) today announced that Frederick E. Manley has been named vice president - technology and services markets, reporting to Ron Stark, senior vice president - sales and marketing. The new position augments the Airgas market segment sales organization by focusing on customers with technology-driven products as well as related aftermarket services.

Manley brings more than 25 years of experience in the industrial gas and equipment business to his new position, including his most recent post as president of Airgas East, one of 12 regional companies that make up Airgas' distribution business. He will now lead Airgas' sales and marketing efforts for customers who manufacture products such as electrical machinery, advanced power storage, aerospace & defense, electronics, medical and scientific equipment, and large-scale pharmaceuticals.

"This new role represents the next step in the alignment of our sales and marketing efforts for targeted customer segments," said Stark. "Fred's skill set in collaborative selling, coupled with his technical process optimization expertise and strong leadership traits make him well-suited to lead our sales and marketing efforts in the technology and service industries."

Manley joined Airgas in May 2001 as sales manager for northern New England and after progressing through various roles became president of Airgas East in 2007. Prior to joining Airgas, he served with independent distributor WESCO from 1992 until its acquisition by AGA in 1997, and then with AGA until its acquisition by Linde Gases in 2000. He began his sales career with six years at Lincoln Electric. Manley graduated from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering and earned his MBA from Southern New Hampshire University.

### **About Airgas, Inc.**

Airgas, Inc. (NYSE: ARG), through its subsidiaries, is the largest U.S. distributor of industrial, medical and specialty gases, and hardgoods, such as welding equipment and supplies. Airgas is also one of the largest U.S. distributors of safety products, the largest U.S. producer of nitrous oxide and dry ice, the largest liquid carbon dioxide producer in the Southeast, and a leading distributor of process chemicals, refrigerants, and ammonia products. More than 14,000 employees work in approximately 1,100 locations, including branches, retail stores, gas fill plants, specialty gas labs, production facilities and distribution centers. Airgas also distributes its products and services through eBusiness, catalog and telesales channels. Its national scale and strong local presence offer a competitive edge to its diversified customer base. For more information, please visit [www.airgas.com](http://www.airgas.com).

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