

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

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

Continental Airlines

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock

(Title of Class of Securities)

210795308

(CUSIP Number)

10/04/2005

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)  
 Rule 13d-1(c)  
 Rule 13d-1(d)

\*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. 210795308  
-----  
-----

1. Names of Reporting Persons  
IRS Identification No:

OppenheimerFunds, Inc.  
13-2527171  
-----  
-----

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions):  
Joint filing  
-----  
-----

3. SEC Use Only  
-----  
-----

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization:  
Colorado

-----  
-----  
Number of  
Shares 5. Sole Voting Power:  
Beneficially Owned by 0  
Each  
Reporting  
Person With  
-----  
-----

6. Shared Voting Power:  
6,833,050\*

7. Sole Dispositive Power:  
0

8. Shared Dispositive Power:  
6,833,050\*

9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person:  
6,833,050\* (beneficial ownership disclaimed pursuant to Rule 13d-4 of the  
Exchange Act of 1934)

10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See  
Instructions)  
[ ]

11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9):  
10.14%\*

12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions):  
IA

-----  
-----  
\*Position reflects the conversion of debentures to, and/or exercise of warrants for,  
shares of common stock.

-----  
-----  
CUSIP No. 210795308  
-----  
-----

1. Names of Reporting Persons:  
IRS Identification No: 93-1036175  
  
Oppenheimer Global Opportunities Fund

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions):  
Joint filing

3. SEC Use Only  
-----  
-----

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization:  
Massachusetts

Number of  
Shares 5. Sole Voting Power:  
Beneficially 6,305,700\*  
Owned by  
Each  
Reporting  
Person With

6. Shared Voting Power:  
0

7. Sole Dispositive Power:  
0

8. Shared Dispositive Power:  
6,305,700\*

9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person:  
6,305,700\*

10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares (See  
Instructions)

11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9):  
9.41%\*

12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions):  
IV

\*Position reflects the conversion of debentures to, and/or exercise of warrants for,  
shares of common stock.

Item:

1(a) Name of Issuer:  
Continental Airlines

1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:  
1600 Smith Street  
Dept. HQSEO  
Houston, TX 77002

2(a) Name of Person Filing:  
(i) OppenheimerFunds, Inc.  
(ii) Oppenheimer Global Opportunities Fund

---

---

2(b) Address of Principal Business Office or, if none, Residence:  
(i) Two World Financial Center  
225 Liberty Street, 11th Floor  
New York, NY 10018  
(ii) 6803 S. Tucson Way  
Centennial, CO 80112

---

---

2(c) Citizenship:  
(i) Colorado  
(ii) Massachusetts

---

---

2(d) Title of Class of Securities:  
Common Stock

---

---

2(e) CUSIP Number:  
210795308

---

---

3 If this statement is filed pursuant to ss.240.13d-1(b) or ss.240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:  
(e)  An investment adviser in accordance with ss.240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E)  
(d)  Investment company registered under section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S. C. 80a-8).

---

---

4(a) Amount beneficially owned:  
(i) 6,833,050 (beneficial ownership disclaimed pursuant to Rule 13d-4 of the Exchange Act of 1934)  
(ii) 6,305,700

---

---

4(b) Percent of class:  
(i) 10.14% (includes ownership reported in 4(b)(ii) below)  
(ii) 9.41%

---

---

4(c) Number of shares as to which the person has:

- (i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote:
  - (a) 0
  - (b) 6,305,700
- (ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote:
  - (a) 6,833,050
  - (b) 0
- (iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:
  - (a) 0
  - (b) 0
- (iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:
  - (a) 6,833,050
  - (b) 6,305,700

---

---

5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class: [ ]

---

---

6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person:  
See Exhibit A hereto.

---

---

7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company:

N/A

8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group:  
N/A

9. Notice of Dissolution of Group:  
N/A

10. Certification:  
By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

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.

10/06/2005  
Date

/s/ Mark S. Vandehey  
Signature

Mark S. Vandehey, Sr. Vice President  
And Chief Compliance Officer  
Name/Title

EXHIBIT A

The respective Boards of Directors or Trustees of the registered investment companies ("Funds") managed by OppenheimerFunds, Inc. ("OFI") that own shares of the issuer can direct the disposition of dividends received by such Funds and can dispose of such securities. Additionally, OFI shares the power to dispose of such securities with the Board of Directors or Trustees of such Funds; however, the Boards of Directors or Trustees of such Funds have delegated this responsibility to OFI as the Funds' investment advisor under the respective investment advisory agreements. OFI has an interest relating to five (5%) percent or more of such securities as disclosed on Page 2 hereof, by virtue of the interest of five percent (5%) or more of such securities by Oppenheimer Global Opportunities Fund as disclosed on pages 3 and 4 hereof. OFI disclaims ownership of such securities, except as expressly stated herein.

EXHIBIT B

The undersigned investment company hereby acknowledges and agrees that a report on Schedule 13G filed by OppenheimerFunds, Inc. on or about the date hereof, relating to the common stock of Continental Airlines is filed on behalf of the undersigned.

Dated: October 6, 2005

Oppenheimer Global Opportunities Fund

By: /s/ Kathleen Ives

Kathleen Ives  
Assistant Secretary

Continental Airlines-13g-initial(100605).rtf