Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

## CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 21, 2003

NL INDUSTRIES, INC. (Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

New Jersey (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 1-640 (Commission File No.) 13-5267260 (Employer ID No.)

5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700, Dallas, Texas (Address of principal executive offices)

75240-2697 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (972) 233-1700

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits

c) Exhibits

Item No. Exhibit Index

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99.1 Press Release dated October 21, 2003 issued by NL

Industries, Inc.

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure.

The registrant hereby furnishes the information set forth in the press release issued on October 21, 2003, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

The information, including the exhibit, the registrant furnishes in this report is not deemed "filed" for purposes of section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section. Registration statements or other documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission shall not incorporate this information by reference, except as otherwise expressly stated in such filing.

## SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

NL INDUSTRIES, INC. (Registrant)

By: /s/ Robert D. Graham

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Robert D. Graham Vice President,

General Counsel & Secretary

Date: October 21, 2003

NL INDUSTRIES, INC. Three Lincoln Centre 5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700 Dallas, Texas 75240-2697

Contact:

Gregory M. Swalwell Vice President, Finance

(972) 450-4228

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NL INDUSTRIES, INC. ANNOUNCES 2003 FOURTH QUARTER DIVIDEND

DALLAS, TEXAS - October 21, 2003 - NL Industries, Inc. (NYSE: NL) announced that its board of directors has declared a regular quarterly dividend of twenty cents per share on its common stock, payable on December 29, 2003 to shareholders of record at the close of business on December 12, 2003.

NL Industries, Inc. is a major international producer of titanium dioxide pigments.

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