

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)

/s/ Dennis G. Newkirk
Dennis G. Newkirk
Vice President & Controller

Dated: February 2, 1998

Dennis G. Newkirk
(281) 423-3332

EXHIBIT 99.1

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NL COMPLETES SALE OF RHEOX FOR \$465 MILLION

HOUSTON, TEXAS -- January 30, 1998 -- NL Industries, Inc. (NYSE:NL) announced today that it has completed the previously announced sale of its Rheox specialty chemicals operations to Elementis plc for \$465 million in cash.

The Company stated that it intends to use the net proceeds of about \$400 million to invest in additional TiO₂ capacity and to reduce outstanding indebtedness.

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

The statements in this release relating to matters that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, future global economic and political conditions, global TiO₂ production capacity and the amount and timing of capacity changes, competitive products and prices, and other risks and uncertainties detailed in the Company's Securities and Exchange Commission filings.

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