

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

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): April 19, 1996

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.)
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16825 Northchase Dr., Suite 1200, Houston, Texas (Address of principal executive offices)	77060 (Zip Code)
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Registrant's telephone number, including area code (713) 423-3300

Not Applicable
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Item 5. Other Events.

On April 19, 1996, the Registrant issued the press release attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein in its entirety by this reference.

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

(c) Exhibits

(i) Exhibit 99.1. Press Release dated April 19, 1996.

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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)

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

Dated: April 19, 1996

Dennis G. Newkirk
(713) 423-3332

EXHIBIT 99.1

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NL REPORTS FIRST QUARTER EARNINGS

HOUSTON, TEXAS -- April 19, 1996 -- NL Industries, Inc. (NYSE:NL) announced net income for the first quarter of 1996 of \$13.4 million, or \$.26 per share, on sales of \$240 million compared to net income in the first quarter of 1995 of \$13.1 million, or \$.26 per share, on sales of \$251 million. Net income as compared to the year-earlier period reflects better results at Rheox, NL's specialty chemical operation, offset by lower operating income at Kronos due to lower TiO2 sales and production volumes.

Operating income of Kronos' titanium dioxide pigments ("TiO2") business in the first quarter of 1996 was \$29.5 million, \$3.0 million less than the first quarter of 1995, on a 5% decrease in sales. Kronos' first quarter sales volumes declined 11% from the record sales volumes of the first quarter of 1995. Slow economic activity in markets in which Kronos sells TiO2 contributed to continued soft demand for the first quarter of 1996. While average TiO2 selling prices for the first quarter of 1996 were 5% higher than the first quarter of 1995, average prices for the quarter were 3% lower than the fourth quarter of 1995.

Rheox's operating income rose \$2.9 million from the year-earlier period to \$12.4 million on higher sales volumes and selling prices and included a \$2.7 million gain related to the reduction of certain U.S. employee pension benefits.

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

NL INDUSTRIES, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(In millions, except per share data)
(Unaudited)

	Quarters ended March 31,	
	1995	1996
NET SALES		
Kronos	\$217.4	\$206.3
Rheox	33.5	34.1
	\$250.9	\$240.4
Operating income		
Kronos	\$ 32.5	\$ 29.5
Rheox	9.5	12.4
OPERATING INCOME	42.0	41.9
General corporate income (expense):		
Securities earnings	2.5	1.3
Expenses, net	(4.6)	(5.0)
Interest expense	(20.7)	(19.1)

Income before income taxes	19.2	19.1
Income tax expense	(5.8)	(5.7)
Minority interest	(.3)	-
NET INCOME	\$ 13.1	\$ 13.4
Per share of common stock	\$.26	\$.26
Weighted average common shares outstanding	51.2	51.5