

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 6-K**

**Report of Foreign Private Issuer Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

December 21, 2004

1-15240  
(Commission File Number)

**JAMES HARDIE INDUSTRIES N.V.**

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

4<sup>th</sup> Level, Atrium, unit 04-07  
Strawinskylaan 3077  
1077 ZX Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover  
Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F..X.... Form 40-F.....

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted  
by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): Not Applicable

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted  
by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7): Not Applicable

Indicate by check mark whether by furnishing the information contained in this Form, the  
registrant is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule  
12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes ..... No ..X...

(If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in  
connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): Not Applicable

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**Safe Harbor Statement**

The exhibits attached to this form 6-K contain forward-looking statements. We may from time to time make forward-looking statements in our periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on Forms 20-F and 6-K, in our annual reports to shareholders, in offering circulars and prospectuses, in media releases and other written materials and in oral statements made by our officers, directors or employees to analysts, institutional investors, representatives of the media and others. Examples of such forward-looking statements include:

- projections of our operating results or financial condition;
- statements of our plans, objectives or goals, including those relating to competition, acquisitions, dispositions and our products;
- statements about our future economic performance or that of the United States, Australia or other countries in which we operate; and
- statements about product or environmental liabilities.

Words such as “believe,” “anticipate,” “plan,” “expect,” “intend,” “target,” “estimate,” “project,” “predict,” “forecast,” “guideline,” “should,” “aim” and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements but are not the exclusive means of identifying such statements.

Forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties. We caution you that a number of important factors could cause actual results to differ materially from the plans, objectives, expectations, estimates and intentions expressed in such forward-looking statements. These factors include but are not limited to: all matters relating to or arising out of the prior manufacture of asbestos by ABN 60 and certain former subsidiaries; competition and product pricing in the markets in which we operate; general economic and market conditions; compliance with and possible changes in environmental and health and safety laws; the successful transition of new senior management; the success of our research and development efforts; the supply and cost of raw materials; our reliance on a small number of product distributors; the consequences of product failures or defects; exposure to environmental, asbestos or other legal proceedings; risks of conducting business internationally; compliance with and changes in tax laws and treatments; and foreign exchange risks. We caution you that the foregoing list of factors is not exclusive and that other risks and uncertainties may cause actual results to differ materially from those in forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made.

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
99.1	Company's Request for Trading Halt – Filed with the Australian Stock Exchange on December 21, 2004
99.2	Trading Halt – Filed with the Australian Stock Exchange on December 21, 2004

**SIGNATURES**

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.

**James Hardie Industries N.V.**

Date: December 21, 2004

By: /s/ W. (Pim) Vlot  
W. (Pim) Vlot  
Secretary

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

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21 December 2004

Mr Richard Hazjuk  
Companies adviser  
Australian Stock Exchange  
20 Bridge Street  
SYDNEY 2000

**James Hardie Industries NV**  
ARBN 097 829 895  
Incorporated in The Netherlands  
The liability of members is limited

Level 3  
22 Pitt Street  
Sydney NSW 2000 Australia

Tel: 61 2 8274 5246  
Fax: 61 2 8274 5218

GPO Box 3935  
Sydney NSW 2001 Australia

**Request for Trading Halt**

On behalf of James Hardie Industries NV (James Hardie, ticker symbol JHX), I request a trading halt in all securities of James Hardie from the commencement of trading today, Tuesday 21 December 2004.

In accordance with Listing Rule 17.1, I advise:

1. The company has been concerned by leaks of information overnight in relation to the status of negotiations with the ACTU, the NSW Government and others in relation to the development of a long-term funding arrangement in relation to the asbestos liabilities of former James Hardie subsidiaries. The leaked information may not necessarily be freely and equally available to market participants, and concerns could therefore arise that sections of the market may be advantaged over others in relation to trading in the company's securities by having privileged access to the information. The trading halt is requested to avoid this circumstance.
2. The company will make an announcement later this morning in relation to those negotiations, at which time the trading halt could be lifted.
3. It is requested that the trading halt remain in place until the company makes an announcement later this morning (due to be made at approximately 11.00am) in relation to those negotiations and long-term funding arrangements.
4. James Hardie is not aware of any reason why the trading halt should not be granted.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please do not hesitate to contact Steve Ashe in Sydney on 8274 5246

Yours faithfully  
/s/ Pim Vlot  
Company Secretary

**Pim Vlot**  
Company Secretary



**ASX**

AUSTRALIAN STOCK EXCHANGE

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**MARKET RELEASE**

21 December 2004

**JAMES HARDIE INDUSTRIES N.V.**

**TRADING HALT**

The securities of James Hardie Industries N.V. (the "Company") will be placed in pre-open at the request of the Company, pending the release of an announcement by the Company. Unless ASX decides otherwise, the securities will remain in pre-open until the earlier of the commencement of normal trading on Thursday, 23 December 2004 or when the announcement is released to the market.

Security Code: JHX

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Hajzuk", written in a cursive style.

Richard Hajzuk  
Companies Adviser