FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

July 28, 2004

JAMES HARDIE INDUSTRIES N.V.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

4th 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 I 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 🗵

(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 exhibit attached to this Form 6-K contains forward-looking statements. 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, which are further discussed in our reports submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission on Forms 20-F and 6-K and in our other filings, include but are not limited to: 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; dependence on cyclical construction markets; 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 or other legal proceedings; and risks of conducting business internationally. 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 contained in forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are made.

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Inquiry Submissions Released – Filed with the Australian Stock Exchange on July 28, 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: July 28, 2004

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

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99.1	Inquiry Submissions Released – Filed with the Australian Stock Exchange on July 28, 2004

company statement

James Hardie Industries NV Media enquiries please contact: Julie Sheather on Tel: 61 2 8274 5206 Mob: 0409 514 643 or Steve Ashe on Tel: 61 2 8274 5246 Mob: 0408 164 011

28 July 2004

Inquiry submissions released

Submissions by all parties to the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Medical Research and Compensation Foundation (MRCF) have been publicly released today.

James Hardie CEO Mr Peter Macdonald said submissions have been made on behalf of more than a dozen individuals and groups aside from JHI NV. Many of these submissions contain disputed allegations against JHI NV and other parties.

James Hardie has lodged its submission in chief addressing the issues raised before the Commission. This submission has been made public by the Commission today, along with parts of the company's submission in reply. The remainder of the company's submissions in reply will be filed on Thursday July 29th.

Mr Macdonald said extensive publicity about the allegations was anticipated, but that these allegations are not the conclusions of the Commission and should be treated as only contentions by interested parties. The company has made a vigorous defence against the allegations for consideration by the Commissioner in the preparation of his report.

Chairman of the JHI NV Board Committee overseeing the company's participation in the Inquiry, Ms Meredith Hellicar, said the company's submissions in reply confirm its earlier proposal. That proposal includes a Board resolution to recommend that shareholders approve the provision of additional funding if an effective statutory scheme is established to compensate all future claimants for asbestos-related injuries caused by former James Hardie subsidiary companies. JHI NV has proposed the key principles of such a scheme in its submissions to the Inquiry. The submission in reply also reviews proposals put forward by others against the overarching need to assure fair and equitable compensation for all claimants.

Ms Hellicar said the Board Committee would carefully review all of the submissions made and allegations raised. The Committee will await the release of the Commissioner's report before making any recommendations to the Board.

A copy of the company's submission and a summary of the JHI NV response to issues raised in the Commission are being published on the company's website (www.ir.jameshardie.com.au) today. Oral submissions in support of written submissions received will be heard by the Commission from Wednesday August 4th. The Commissioner is due to report to the NSW Government by September 21, 2004.

End.

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Disclaimer

Company statements can contain forward-looking statements. 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, which are further discussed in our reports submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission on Forms 20-F and 6-K and in our other filings, include but are not limited to: 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; dependence on cyclical construction markets; 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 or other legal proceedings; and risks of conducting business internationally. 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 contained in forward-looking statements. Forwardlooking statements speak only as of the date they are made.