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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

October 26, 2004

1-15240  
(Commission File Number)

**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  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, some of 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 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; 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 contained 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	Fin. Position of Medical Research & Compensation Foundation – Filed with the Australian Stock Exchange on October 25, 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.

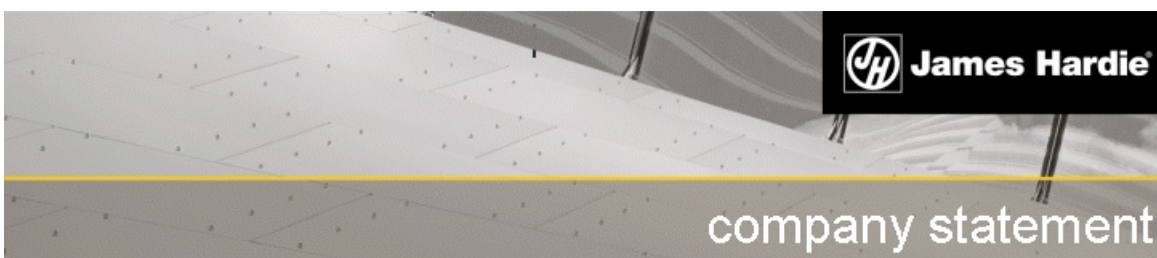
**James Hardie Industries N.V.**

Date: October 26, 2004

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

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For media enquiries please contact John Noble on  
Tel: 61 2 8274 5206 Mob: 0407 000 040.  
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25 October 2004

#### **FINANCIAL POSITION OF MEDICAL RESEARCH AND COMPENSATION FOUNDATION**

James Hardie Industries NV today wrote to the Medical Research and Compensation Foundation reaffirming its preparedness to provide assistance regarding the MRCF's interim liquidity position.

James Hardie also expressed its surprise at the apparent immediacy of the MRCF's claims. The MRCF only last month rejected as no longer necessary James Hardie's offer to provide interim financial assistance, following an approach from the MRCF that it was approaching a liquidity issue in late August.

James Hardie reiterates that it is in no-one's interests to have the MRCF placed in a position where it is unable to pay legitimate claimants

James Hardie has continued to seek additional information from the MRCF in order to assess ways in which James Hardie may assist the Foundation's liquidity position on this occasion.

#### **NEGOTIATIONS WITH ACTU**

James Hardie also advised MRCF today that the MRCF's continued delay in providing claims history data has substantially delayed James Hardie's ability to negotiate an agreement with the ACTU and asbestos groups to reach a funding solution for all future claimants of asbestos-related diseases.

This data is critical to James Hardie's capacity to develop a financially sustainable funding proposal.

The MRCF first undertook to provide this critical information by 30 September, prior to the first meeting between the ACTU and James Hardie on 1 October this year.

Nearly four weeks have passed and the material has still yet to be produced.

The Company is at a loss to explain why the MRCF is being reticent in providing the necessary information, particularly given it asserted urgency for additional funding.

This delay and the MRCF's public announcements are at odds with resolving both the MRCF's liquidity issues, and developing a long-term sustainable compensation solution for asbestos claimants.

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**Disclaimer**

*This media release 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, some of 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 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; 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 contained in forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made.*