

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

NL INDUSTRIES INC
Form DEF 14A
April 17, 2006

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by Registrant: [X]
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant: []

Check the appropriate box:

- [] Preliminary Proxy Statement
[] Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
[X] Definitive Proxy Statement
[] Definitive Additional Materials
[] Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-12

NL Industries, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- [X] No fee required.
- [] Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.
- 1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
 - 2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
 - 3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
 - 4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:
 - 5) Total fee paid:
- [] Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
- [] Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.
- 1) Amount Previously Paid:
 - 2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
 - 3) Filing Party:

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

4) Date Filed:

NL INDUSTRIES, INC.
THREE LINCOLN CENTRE
5430 LBJ FREEWAY
SUITE 1700
DALLAS, TEXAS 75240-2697

April 17, 2006

To our Shareholders:

You are cordially invited to attend the 2006 Annual Meeting of Shareholders of NL Industries, Inc., which will be held on Wednesday, May 24, 2006, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at our corporate offices at Three Lincoln Centre, 5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700, Dallas, Texas. The matters to be acted upon at the meeting are described in the attached Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders and Proxy Statement.

Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, please complete, date, sign and return the enclosed proxy card or voting instruction form in the accompanying envelope as promptly as possible to ensure that your shares are represented and voted in accordance with your wishes. Your vote, whether given by proxy or in person at the meeting, will be held in confidence by the inspector of election as provided in our by-laws.

Sincerely,

/s/ Harold C. Simmons
Harold C. Simmons
Chairman of the Board and
Chief Executive Officer

NL INDUSTRIES, INC.
THREE LINCOLN CENTRE
5430 LBJ FREEWAY, SUITE 1700
DALLAS, TEXAS 75240-2697

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

To Be Held May 24, 2006

To the Shareholders of NL Industries, Inc.:

The 2006 Annual Meeting of Shareholders of NL Industries, Inc. will be held on Wednesday, May 24, 2006, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at our corporate offices at Three Lincoln Centre, 5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700, Dallas, Texas, for the following purposes:

- (1) To elect six directors to serve until the 2007 Annual Meeting of Shareholders; and
- (2) To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

The close of business on March 28, 2006 has been set as the record date for the meeting. Only holders of our common stock at the close of business on the record date are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the meeting. A complete list of shareholders entitled to vote at the meeting will be available for examination during normal business hours by any of our shareholders, for purposes related to the meeting, for a period of ten days prior to the meeting at our corporate offices.

You are cordially invited to attend the meeting. Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, please complete, date and sign the accompanying proxy card or voting instruction form and return it promptly in the enclosed envelope. If you choose, you may still vote in person at the meeting even though you previously submitted your proxy card.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

/s/ Robert D. Graham
Robert D. Graham
Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

Dallas, Texas
April 17, 2006

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	
GLOSSARY OF TERMS.....	
GENERAL INFORMATION.....	
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING.....	
CONTROLLED COMPANY.....	
ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.....	
Nominees for Director.....	
MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

Audit Committee.....	
Management Development and Compensation Committee.....	
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.....	
SECURITY OWNERSHIP.....	
Ownership of NL.....	
Ownership of Related Companies.....	
COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND OTHER INFORMATION.....	
Compensation of Directors.....	
Intercorporate Services Agreements.....	
Summary of Cash and Certain Other Compensation of Executive Officers.....	
No Grants of Stock Options or Stock Appreciation Rights.....	
Stock Option Exercises and Holdings.....	
Pension Plans.....	
EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION.....	
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENTS.....	
Code of Business Conduct and Ethics.....	
Corporate Governance Guidelines.....	
Audit Committee Charter.....	
SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE.....	
EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION REPORT.....	
CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND TRANSACTIONS.....	
Relationships with Related Parties.....	
Intercorporate Services Agreements.....	
Short-Swing Trading Profits.....	
Loans between Related Parties.....	
Formation of CompX Group, Inc.....	
Insurance Matters.....	
Tax Matters.....	
Simmons Family Matters.....	
PERFORMANCE GRAPH.....	
AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT.....	
INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM MATTERS.....	
Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.....	
Fees Paid to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.....	
Preapproval Policies and Procedures.....	
OTHER MATTERS.....	
SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS AND DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2007 ANNUAL MEETING.....	
COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	
2005 ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K.....	
ADDITIONAL COPIES.....	
APPENDIX A -- AMENDED AND RESTATED AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER.....	

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

"CDCT No. 2" means the Contran Deferred Compensation Trust No. 2, an irrevocable "rabbi trust" established by Contran to assist it in meeting certain deferred compensation obligations that it owes to Harold C. Simmons.

"CMRT" means The Combined Master Retirement Trust, a trust Contran sponsors that permits the collective investment by master trusts that maintain assets of certain employee benefit plans Contran and related entities adopt.

"Computershare" means Computershare Investor Services L.L.C., our stock transfer agent.

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

"CompX" means CompX International Inc., one of our publicly held subsidiaries that manufactures precision slides, security products and ergonomic computer support systems.

"CGI" means CompX Group, Inc., one of our subsidiaries in which TFMC holds a minority interest and a parent corporation of CompX.

"Contran" means Contran Corporation, the parent corporation of our consolidated tax group.

"Dixie Holding" means Dixie Holding Company, one of our parent corporations.

"Dixie Rice" means Dixie Rice Agricultural Corporation, Inc., one of our parent corporations.

"Foundation" means the Harold C. Simmons Foundation, Inc., a tax-exempt foundation organized for charitable purposes.

"independent directors" means the following directors: Cecil H. Moore, Jr., Thomas P. Stafford and Terry N. Worrell.

"ISA" means an intercorporate services agreement between or among Contran related companies pursuant to which employees of one or more related companies provide certain services, including executive officer services, to another related company on a fee basis.

"Keystone" means Keystone Consolidated Industries, Inc., one of our sister corporations that manufactures steel fabricated wire products, industrial wire and carbon steel rod.

"KII" means Kronos International, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Kronos Worldwide.

"Kronos Worldwide" means Kronos Worldwide, Inc., one of our publicly held subsidiaries that is an international manufacturer of titanium dioxide pigments and that we account for on our financial statements using the equity method.

"named executive officer" means our executive officers named in the summary compensation table in this proxy statement.

"National" means National City Lines, Inc., one of our parent corporations.

"NL," "us," "we" or "our" mean NL Industries, Inc.

"NOA" means NOA, Inc., one of our parent corporations.

"non-management directors" means the following directors who are not one of our executive officers: Cecil H. Moore, Jr., Glenn R. Simmons, Thomas P. Stafford, Terry N. Worrell and Steven L. Watson.

"NYSE" means the New York Stock Exchange, Inc.

"PwC" means PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm.

"record date" means the close of business on March 28, 2006, the date our board of directors set for the determination of shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the 2006 annual meeting of our shareholders.

"SEC" means the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

"Securities Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

"Southwest" means Southwest Louisiana Land Company, Inc., one of our parent corporations.

"Tall Pines" means Tall Pines Insurance Company, an indirect wholly owned captive insurance subsidiary of Valhi.

"TFMC" means TIMET Finance Management Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of TIMET.

"TIMET" means Titanium Metals Corporation, one of our publicly held sister corporations that is an integrated producer of titanium metals products.

"TIMET series A preferred stock" means TIMET's 6 3/4% Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, par value \$0.01 per share.

"Tremont" means Tremont LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Valhi.

"Valhi" means Valhi, Inc., our publicly held parent corporation that is a diversified holding company with principal investments in us, TIMET and Kronos Worldwide.

"VGI" means Valhi Group, Inc., one of our parent corporations.

"VHC" means Valhi Holding Company, one of our parent corporations.

NL INDUSTRIES, INC.
Three Lincoln Centre
5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700
Dallas, Texas 75240-2697

PROXY STATEMENT

GENERAL INFORMATION

This proxy statement and the accompanying proxy card or voting instruction form are being furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by and on behalf of our board of directors for use at our 2006 Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on Wednesday, May 24, 2006 and at any adjournment or postponement of the meeting. The accompanying notice of annual meeting of shareholders sets forth the time, place and purposes of the meeting. The notice, this proxy statement, the accompanying proxy card or voting instruction form and our Annual Report to Shareholders, which includes our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005, are first being mailed on or about April 17, 2006 to the holders of our common stock at the close of business on March 28, 2006. Our principal executive offices are located at Three Lincoln Centre, 5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700, Dallas, Texas 75240-2697.

Please refer to the Glossary of Terms on page ii for the definitions of capitalized or other terms used in this proxy statement.

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Q: What is the purpose of the annual meeting?

A: At the annual meeting, shareholders will vote on the election of six directors and any other matter that may properly come before the meeting.

Q: How does the board recommend that I vote?

A: The board of directors recommends that you vote FOR each of the nominees for director.

Q: Who is allowed to vote at the annual meeting?

A: The board of directors has set the close of business on March 28, 2006 as the record date for the determination of shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting. Only holders of record of our common stock as of the close of business on the record date are entitled to vote at the meeting. On the record date, 48,563,034 shares of our common stock were issued and outstanding. Each share of our common stock is entitled to one vote.

Q: How do I vote?

A: If your shares are held by a bank, broker or other nominee (i.e., in "street name"), you must follow the instructions from your nominee on how to vote your shares.

If you are a shareholder of record, you may:

- o vote in person at the annual meeting; or
- o instruct the agents named on the proxy card how to vote your shares by completing, signing and mailing the enclosed proxy card in the envelope provided.

If you execute a proxy card but do not indicate how you would like your shares voted for one or more of the nominees, the agents will vote FOR the election of each such nominee for director and, to the extent allowed by applicable law, in the discretion of the agents on any other matter that may properly come before the meeting.

Q: Who will count the votes?

A: The board of directors has appointed Computershare, our transfer agent and registrar, to receive proxies and ballots, ascertain the number of shares represented, tabulate the vote and serve as inspector of election for the meeting.

Q: Is my vote confidential?

A: Yes. All proxy cards, ballots or voting instructions delivered to Computershare will be kept confidential in accordance with our by-laws.

Q: May I change or revoke my proxy or voting instructions?

A: If you are a shareholder of record, you may change or revoke your proxy instructions at any time before the meeting in any of the following ways:

- o delivering to Computershare a written revocation;
- o submitting another proxy card bearing a later date; or

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

- o voting in person at the meeting.

If your shares are held by a bank, broker or other nominee, you must follow the instructions from your nominee on how to change or revoke your voting instructions.

Q: What constitutes a quorum?

A: A quorum is the presence, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock entitled to vote at the meeting. Under the applicable rules of the NYSE and the SEC, brokers or other nominees holding shares of record on behalf of a client who is the actual beneficial owner of such shares are authorized to vote on certain routine matters without receiving instructions from the beneficial owner of the shares. If such a broker/nominee who is entitled to vote on a routine matter delivers an executed proxy card and does not vote on the matter, such a vote is referred to in this proxy statement as a "broker/nominee non-vote." Shares of common stock that are voted to abstain from any business coming before the meeting and broker/nominee non-votes will be counted as being in attendance at the meeting for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present.

Q: What vote is required to elect a director nominee or approve any other matter?

A: If a quorum is present, a plurality of the affirmative votes of the holders of our outstanding shares of common stock represented and entitled to be voted at the meeting is necessary to elect each nominee for director. The accompanying proxy card or voting instruction form provides space for you to withhold authority to vote for any of the nominees. Neither shares as to which the authority to vote on the election of directors has been withheld nor broker/nominee non-votes will be counted as affirmative votes to elect director nominees. However, since director nominees need only receive the plurality of the affirmative votes from the holders represented and entitled to vote at the meeting to be elected, a vote withheld from a particular nominee will not affect the election of such nominee.

Except as our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and applicable laws may otherwise provide, if a quorum is present, the approval of any other matter that may properly come before the meeting will require the affirmative votes of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares represented and entitled to vote at the meeting. Shares of our common stock that are voted to abstain from any other business coming before the meeting and broker/nominee non-votes will not be counted as votes for or against any such other matter.

Q: Who will pay for the cost of soliciting the proxies?

A: We will pay all expenses related to the solicitation, including charges for preparing, printing, assembling and distributing all materials delivered to shareholders. In addition to the solicitation by mail, our directors, officers and regular employees may solicit proxies by telephone or in person for which such persons will receive no additional compensation. We have retained The Altman Group, Inc. to aid in the distribution of this proxy statement and related materials at an estimated cost of \$1,200. Upon request, we will reimburse banking institutions, brokerage firms, custodians, trustees, nominees and fiduciaries for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in distributing proxy materials and voting instructions to the beneficial owners of our common stock that such entities hold of record.

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

CONTROLLED COMPANY

Valhi directly held approximately 83.1% of the outstanding shares of our common stock as of the record date. Valhi has indicated its intention to have its shares of our common stock represented at the meeting and voted FOR the election of each of the director nominees to our board of directors. If Valhi attends the meeting in person or by proxy and votes as indicated, the meeting will have a quorum present and the shareholders will elect all the nominees to the board of directors.

Because of Valhi's ownership of our common stock, we are considered a controlled company under the listing standards of the NYSE. Pursuant to the listing standards, a controlled company may choose not to have a majority of independent directors, independent compensation, nominating or corporate governance committees or charters for these committees. We have chosen not to have a majority of independent directors or an independent nominating or corporate governance committee. Our board of directors believes that the full board of directors best represents the interests of all of our shareholders and that it is appropriate for all matters that would be considered by a nominating or corporate governance committee to be considered and acted upon by the full board of directors. Applying the NYSE director independence standards, the board of directors has determined that three of our directors are independent and have no material relationship with us other than serving as our directors. See "Meetings and Committees of the Board of Directors--Audit Committee" for certain relationships the board of directors considered in making this determination. While the members of our management development and compensation committee currently satisfy the independence requirements of the NYSE, we have chosen not to satisfy all of the NYSE listing standards for a compensation committee. See "Meetings and Committees of the Board of Directors" for more information on the committees of the board of directors. See also "Shareholder Proposals and Director Nominations for the 2007 Annual Meeting" for a description of our policies and procedures for shareholder nominations of directors.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that the board of directors shall consist of not less than seven nor more than 17 members as determined by our board of directors or shareholders. Our board of directors has currently set the number of directors at seven and recommended six director nominees for the 2006 annual meeting. The board of directors has determined that it can adequately represent our shareholders with six directors and one vacancy on the board of directors. Even though there is currently a vacancy of one directorship on the board of directors, you cannot vote for a greater number of persons than the six director nominees set forth in this proxy statement. The directors elected at the meeting will hold office until our 2007 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified or their earlier removal, resignation or death.

All of the nominees are currently members of our board of directors whose terms will expire at the meeting. All of the nominees have agreed to serve if elected. If any nominee is not available for election at the meeting, all shares represented by a proxy card will be voted FOR an alternate nominee to be selected by the board of directors, unless the shareholder executing such proxy card withholds authority to vote for such nominee. The board of directors believes that all of its nominees will be available for election at the meeting and will serve if elected.

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE ELECTION OF THE FOLLOWING NOMINEES FOR DIRECTOR.

Nominees for Director. The respective nominees have provided the following information.

Cecil H. Moore, Jr., age 66, has served on our board of directors since 2003. Mr. Moore is currently a private investor and retired from KPMG LLP in 2000 after 37 years in which he served in various capacities with the public accounting firm. Among other positions, he served as managing partner of the firm's Dallas, Texas business unit from 1990 to 1999. Prior to 1990, Mr. Moore was partner-in-charge of the audit and accounting practice of the firm's Dallas, Texas business unit for 12 years. Mr. Moore is also a director and chairman of the audit committee of Perot Systems Corporation, a worldwide provider of information technology services and business solutions. He is a member of our audit committee and on the board of directors and chairman of the audit committee of Kronos Worldwide.

Glenn R. Simmons, age 78, has served on our board of directors since 1986. Mr. Simmons has been vice chairman of the board of Valhi and Contran since prior to 2001. Mr. Simmons has been chairman of the board of CompX and Keystone since prior to 2001 and also serves on the board of directors of Kronos Worldwide and TIMET. In 2004, Keystone filed a voluntary petition for reorganization under federal bankruptcy laws and emerged from the bankruptcy proceedings in August 2005. Mr. Simmons has been an executive officer or director of various companies related to Valhi and Contran since 1969. He is a brother of Harold C. Simmons.

Harold C. Simmons, age 74, has served as our chief executive officer since 2003 and our chairman of the board since 1987 and on our board of directors since 1986. Mr. Simmons has served as chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Kronos Worldwide since 2003. He also has served as chairman of the board of TIMET since November 2005, chief executive officer of TIMET from November 2005 to January 2006 and vice chairman of the board of TIMET from 2004 to November 2005. Mr. Simmons has been chairman of the board of Valhi and Contran since prior to 2001 and was chief executive officer of Valhi from prior to 2001 to 2002. Mr. Simmons has been an executive officer or director of various companies related to Valhi and Contran since 1961. Mr. Simmons is a brother of Glenn R. Simmons.

General Thomas P. Stafford (retired), age 75, served on our board of directors from 1984 to 1986 and was re-appointed in 2000. Gen. Stafford was selected as an astronaut in 1962, piloted Gemini VI in 1965 and commanded Gemini IX in 1966. In 1969, Gen. Stafford was named Chief of the Astronaut Office and was the Apollo X commander for the first lunar module flight to the moon. He commanded the Apollo-Soyuz joint mission with the Soviet cosmonauts in 1975. After his retirement from the United States Air Force in 1979 as Lieutenant General, he became chairman of Gibraltar Exploration Limited, an oil and gas exploration and production company, and served in that position until 1984, when he joined General Technical Services, Inc., a consulting firm. Gen. Stafford was also affiliated with Stafford, Burke and Hecker, Inc., a Washington-based consulting firm, from 1982 until 2005. Gen. Stafford has more recently served as an advisor to a number of governmental agencies including the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the Air Force Material Command. He is currently chairman of the NASA Advisory Council Task Force on the International Space Station Program, and also served as co-chairman of the Stafford-Covey NASA Space Shuttle Return to Flight Task Group. Gen. Stafford has received many honors and decorations including the Congressional Space Medal of Honor. He is also a director of TIMET and chairman of our audit committee and management development and compensation committee.

Steven L. Watson, age 55, has served on our board of directors since 2000. Mr. Watson has served as vice chairman of the board of Kronos Worldwide since

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

2004. He has served as chief executive officer of TIMET since January 2006 and vice chairman of the board of TIMET since November 2005. Mr. Watson has been chief executive officer of Valhi since 2002 and president and a director of Valhi and Contran since 1998. Mr. Watson is also a director of CompX and Keystone. Mr. Watson has served as an executive officer or director of various companies related to Valhi and Contran since 1980.

Terry N. Worrell, age 61, has served on our board of directors since 2003. Mr. Worrell has been a private investor with Worrell Investments, Inc., a real estate investment company, since 1989. From 1974 to 1989, Mr. Worrell was president and chief executive officer of Sound Warehouse of Dallas Inc., a chain of retail music stores. Mr. Worrell also serves on our audit committee and management development and compensation committee. Mr. Worrell is a director of Regency Centers Corporation and a trust manager of Crescent Real Estate Equities Company, both real estate investment trusts.

MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The board of directors held three meetings and took action by written consent on three occasions in 2005. Other than Harold C. Simmons, each director participated in all of such meetings and of the 2005 meetings of the committees on which he served at the time. Mr. Simmons participated in 67% of our 2005 board meetings. It is expected that each director will attend our annual meetings of shareholders, which are held immediately before the annual meetings of the board of directors. All members of the board of directors attended our 2005 annual shareholder meeting.

The board of directors has established and delegated authority to two standing committees, which are described below. The board of directors is expected to elect the members of the standing committees at the board of directors annual meeting immediately following the annual shareholder meeting. The board of directors has previously established, and from time to time may establish, other committees to assist it in the discharge of its responsibilities.

Audit Committee. Our audit committee assists with the board of directors' oversight responsibilities relating to our financial accounting and reporting processes and auditing processes. The responsibilities of our audit committee are more specifically set forth in the amended and restated audit committee charter, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A to this proxy statement and also available under the corporate governance section of our website, www.nl-ind.com. Applying the requirements of the NYSE listing standards and SEC regulations, as applicable, the board of directors has determined that:

- o each member of our audit committee is independent, financially literate and has no material relationship with us other than serving as our director; and
- o Mr. Cecil H. Moore, Jr. is an "audit committee financial expert."

In determining that Mr. Worrell, a member of our audit committee, has no material relationship with us other than serving as our director, the board of directors considered the following relationship.

- o As part of a five-year pledge of \$5.0 million, the Foundation, of which Harold C. Simmons is the chairman of the board, contributed in each of 2004 and 2005 \$1.0 million to Children's Medical Foundation of

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

Texas, of which foundation Mr. Worrell serves as a trustee.

The board determined that this relationship was not material based on the representation from Mr. Worrell that he receives no compensation for serving as a trustee of Children's Medical Foundation of Texas.

No member of our audit committee serves on more than three public company audit committees. For further information on the role of our audit committee, see "Audit Committee Report." The current members of our audit committee are Thomas P. Stafford (chairman), Cecil H. Moore, Jr. and Terry N. Worrell. Our audit committee held 17 meetings in 2005.

Management Development and Compensation Committee. The principal responsibilities of our management development and compensation committee are:

- o to recommend to the board of directors whether or not to approve any proposed charge to us or any of our wholly owned subsidiaries pursuant to an ISA with a related parent company;
- o to review, approve or administer certain matters regarding our employee benefit plans or programs;
- o to review, approve, administer and grant awards under our equity compensation plans; and
- o to review and administer such other compensation matters as the board of directors may direct from time to time.

As discussed above with respect to audit committee members, the board of directors has determined that each member of our management development and compensation committee is independent by applying the NYSE director independence standards. For further information on the role of our management development and compensation committee, see "Executive Compensation Report." The current members of our management development and compensation committee are Thomas P. Stafford (chairman) and Terry N. Worrell. Our management development and compensation committee held one meeting in 2005.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Set forth below is certain information relating to our executive officers. Each executive officer serves at the pleasure of the board of directors. Biographical information with respect to Harold C. Simmons is set forth under "Election of Directors--Nominees for Director."

Name ----	Age ---	Position(s) -----
Harold C. Simmons.....	74	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer
James W. Brown.....	49	Vice President and Controller
Robert D. Graham.....	50	Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
Kelly D. Luttmer.....	42	Vice President and Tax Director
John A. St. Wrba.....	49	Vice President and Treasurer
Gregory M. Swalwell.....	49	Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

James W. Brown has served as vice president and controller of us and Kronos Worldwide since 2003. From 1998 to 2002, he served as vice president and chief financial officer of Software Spectrum, Inc., a global business-to-business software services provider that is currently a wholly owned subsidiary of Level 3 Communications, Inc., but from 1991 to 2002 was a publicly traded corporation. From 1994 to 1998, Mr. Brown served as vice president, corporate accounting of Affiliated Computer Services, Inc., a provider of business process and information technology outsourcing solutions.

Robert D. Graham has served as vice president, general counsel and secretary of us and Kronos Worldwide since 2003, executive vice president of TIMET since February 2006 and vice president of TIMET from 2004 to 2006 and vice president of Valhi and Contran since 2002. From 1997 to 2002, Mr. Graham served as an executive officer, and later as executive vice president and general counsel of Software Spectrum, Inc. From 1985 to 1997, Mr. Graham was a partner in the law firm of Locke Purnell Rain Harrell (A Professional Corporation), a predecessor to Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP.

Kelly D. Luttmmer has served as vice president of us, CompX, Contran, Kronos Worldwide and Valhi since 2004, tax director of us and Kronos Worldwide since 2003 and tax director of CompX, Valhi and Contran since 1998. Ms. Luttmmer has served in tax accounting positions with various companies related to Valhi and Contran since 1989.

John A. St. Wrba has served as vice president and treasurer of us since 2003, Valhi since 2005 and TIMET and Contran since 2004. He has also served as vice president of Kronos Worldwide since 2004 and treasurer of Kronos Worldwide since 2003. He was our assistant treasurer from 2002 to 2003. From 2000 until 2002, he was assistant treasurer of Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation, a leading producer of fabricated aluminum products.

Gregory M. Swalwell has served as chief financial officer of us and Kronos Worldwide since 2004, vice president, finance of us and Kronos Worldwide since 2003, vice president of TIMET since 2004 and vice president and controller of Valhi and Contran since 1998. Mr. Swalwell has served in accounting and financial positions with various companies related to Valhi and Contran since 1988.

SECURITY OWNERSHIP

Ownership of NL. The following table and footnotes set forth as of the record date the beneficial ownership, as defined by regulations of the SEC, of our common stock held by each individual, entity or group known to us to own beneficially more than 5% of the outstanding shares of our common stock, each director, each named executive officer and all of our directors and executive officers as a group. See footnote (4) below for information concerning the relationships of certain individuals and entities that may be deemed to own indirectly and beneficially more than 5% of the outstanding shares of our common stock. All information is taken from or based upon ownership filings made by such individuals or entities with the SEC or upon information provided by such individuals or entities.

NL Common St	
Name of Beneficial Owner	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership (1)
Harold C. Simmons (3).....	255,000 (4) (5)

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

Valhi, Inc. (3).....	40,350,931	(4)
TIMET Finance Management Company (3).....	222,100	(4)
Annette C. Simmons (3).....	119,475	(4)

	40,947,506	(4) (5)
Cecil H. Moore, Jr.....	1,000	
Glenn R. Simmons.....	9,000	(4)
Thomas P. Stafford.....	6,000	
Steven L. Watson.....	11,000	(4) (5)
Terry N. Worrell.....	2,000	
Robert D. Graham.....	-0-	(4)
Gregory M. Swalwell.....	-0-	(4)
Kelly D. Luttmer.....	-0-	(4)
James W. Brown.....	-0-	(4)
All our directors and executive officers as a group (11 persons)....	40,976,506	(4) (5)

* Less than 1%.

- (1) Except as otherwise noted, the listed entities, individuals or group have sole investment power and sole voting power as to all shares set forth opposite their names. The number of shares and percentage of ownership for each individual or group assumes the exercise by such individual or group (exclusive of others) of stock options that such individual or group may exercise within 60 days subsequent to the record date.
- (2) The percentages are based on 48,563,034 shares of our common stock outstanding as of the record date.
- (3) The business address of Valhi and Harold C. and Annette C. Simmons is Three Lincoln Centre, 5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700, Dallas, Texas 75240-2697. The business address of TFMC is 300 Delaware Avenue, Suite 900, Wilmington, Delaware 19801.
- (4) TIMET is the direct holder of 100% of the outstanding shares of common stock of TFMC. Tremont, Annette C. Simmons, the CMRT, Valhi and Harold C. Simmons are the holders of approximately 33.5%, 12.7%, 10.2%, 3.8% and 2.6%, respectively, of the outstanding shares of TIMET common stock. Valhi is the sole member of Tremont. The ownership of TIMET common stock by Ms. Simmons includes 10,666,666 shares of TIMET common stock that she has the right to acquire upon conversion of 1,600,000 shares of TIMET series A preferred stock that she directly holds. The ownership of TIMET common stock by Valhi includes 98,000 shares of TIMET common stock that Valhi has the right to acquire upon conversion of 14,700 shares of TIMET series A preferred stock that Valhi directly holds. The percentage ownership of TIMET common stock held by each of Ms. Simmons and Valhi assumes the full conversion of only the shares of TIMET series A preferred stock she or Valhi owns, respectively.

VHC, the Foundation, the CDCT No. 2 and the CMRT are the direct holders of approximately 91.6%, 0.9%, 0.4% and 0.1%, respectively, of the outstanding common stock of Valhi. VGI, National and Contran are the direct holders of 87.4%, 10.3% and 2.3%, respectively, of the outstanding common stock of VHC. National, NOA and Dixie Holding are the direct holders of approximately 73.3%, 11.4% and 15.3%, respectively, of the outstanding VGI common stock. Contran and NOA are the direct holders of approximately 85.7% and 14.3%, respectively, of the outstanding National common stock. Contran and Southwest are the direct holders of approximately 49.9% and 50.1%, respectively, of the outstanding NOA common stock. Dixie Rice is the direct holder of 100% of the outstanding common stock of Dixie Holding. Contran is the holder of 100% of the outstanding common stock of Dixie Rice and

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

approximately 88.9% of the outstanding common stock of Southwest.

Substantially all of Contran's outstanding voting stock is held by trusts established for the benefit of certain children and grandchildren of Harold C. Simmons, of which Mr. Simmons is the sole trustee, or held by Mr. Simmons or persons or other entities related to Mr. Simmons. As sole trustee of these trusts, Mr. Simmons has the power to vote and direct the disposition of the shares of Contran stock held by these trusts. Mr. Simmons, however, disclaims beneficial ownership of any Contran shares these trusts hold.

The Foundation directly holds approximately 0.9% of the outstanding shares of Valhi common stock. This foundation is a tax-exempt foundation organized for charitable purposes. Harold C. Simmons is the chairman of the board of this foundation.

The CDCT No. 2 directly holds approximately 0.4% of the outstanding shares of Valhi common stock. U.S. Bank National Association serves as the trustee of the CDCT No. 2. Contran established the CDCT No. 2 as an irrevocable "rabbi trust" to assist Contran in meeting certain deferred compensation obligations that it owes to Harold C. Simmons. If the CDCT No. 2 assets are insufficient to satisfy such obligations, Contran must satisfy the balance of such obligations. Pursuant to the terms of the CDCT No. 2, Contran retains the power to vote the shares held by the CDCT No. 2, retains dispositive power over such shares and may be deemed the indirect beneficial owner of such shares.

The CMRT directly holds approximately 10.2% of the outstanding shares of TIMET common stock and 0.1% of the outstanding shares of Valhi common stock. Contran sponsors this trust to permit the collective investment by master trusts that maintain assets of certain employee benefit plans Contran and related entities adopt. Harold C. Simmons is the sole trustee of this trust and a member of the investment committee for this trust. Contran's board of directors selects the trustee and members of this trust's investment committee. All of our executive officers, Glenn R. Simmons and Steven L. Watson are participants in one or more of the employee benefit plans that invest through this trust. Each of such persons disclaims beneficial ownership of any of the shares this trust holds, except to the extent of his or her individual vested beneficial interest, if any, in the assets this trust holds.

Harold C. Simmons is the chairman of the board and chief executive officer of us and Kronos Worldwide and the chairman of the board of each of TIMET, Tremont, Valhi, VHC, VGI, National, NOA, Dixie Holding, Dixie Rice, Southwest and Contran.

By virtue of the holding of the offices, the stock ownership and his services as trustee, all as described above, (a) Harold C. Simmons may be deemed to control certain of such entities and (b) Mr. Simmons and certain of such entities may be deemed to possess indirect beneficial ownership of shares directly held by certain of such other entities. However, Mr. Simmons disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, by any of such entities, except to the extent of his vested beneficial interest, if any, in shares held by the CMRT and his interest as a beneficiary of the CDCT No. 2. Mr. Harold Simmons disclaims beneficial ownership of all shares of our common stock beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, by Valhi or TFMC.

All of our directors or executive officers who are also directors or executive officers of Valhi or TFMC or their parent companies disclaim beneficial ownership of the shares of our common stock that such companies directly or indirectly hold.

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

Annette C. Simmons is the wife of Harold C. Simmons. She is the direct owner of 119,475 shares of our common stock, 228,000 shares of TIMET common stock, 1,600,000 shares of TIMET series A preferred stock and 43,400 shares of Valhi common stock. Mr. Simmons may be deemed to share indirect beneficial ownership of such shares. Mr. Simmons disclaims all such beneficial ownership.

The Annette Simmons Grandchildren's Trust, a trust of which Harold C. Simmons and Annette C. Simmons are co-trustees and the beneficiaries of which are the grandchildren of Annette C. Simmons, is the direct holder of 36,500 shares of Valhi common stock. Mr. Simmons, as co-trustee of this trust, has the power to vote and direct the disposition of the shares of Valhi common stock this trust directly holds. Mr. Simmons disclaims beneficial ownership of any shares of Valhi common stock that this trust holds.

Harold C. Simmons is the direct owner of 255,000 shares of our common stock (including options exercisable for 2,000 shares of our common stock), 1,933,700 shares of TIMET common stock and 3,383 shares of Valhi common stock.

We and one of our subsidiaries directly hold 3,522,967 and 1,186,200 shares of Valhi common stock, respectively. Since we are majority owned subsidiary of Valhi, and pursuant to Delaware law, Valhi treats the shares of Valhi common stock that we and our subsidiary hold as treasury stock for voting purposes. For the purposes of calculating the percentage ownership of the outstanding shares of Valhi common stock as of the record date in this proxy statement such shares are not deemed outstanding.

The business address of Contran, the CDCT No. 2, the CMRT, Dixie Holding, the Foundation, National, NOA, TIMET, Tremont, VGI and VHC is Three Lincoln Centre, 5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700, Dallas, Texas 75240-2697. The business address of Dixie Rice is 600 Pasquiere Street, Gueydan, Louisiana 70542. The business address of Southwest is 402 Canal Street, Houma, Louisiana 70360.

- (5) The shares of our common stock shown as beneficially owned by such person include the following number of shares such person has the right to acquire upon the exercise of stock options that such person may exercise within 60 days subsequent to the record date:

Name of Beneficial Owner	Shares Stock I Exercise On or Be
Harold C. Simmons.....	
Steven L. Watson.....	

We understand that Contran and related entities may consider acquiring or disposing of shares of our common stock through open market or privately negotiated transactions, depending upon future developments, including, but not limited to, the availability and alternative uses of funds, the performance of our common stock in the market, an assessment of our business and prospects, financial and stock market conditions and other factors deemed relevant by such

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

entities. We may similarly consider acquisitions of shares of our common stock and acquisitions or dispositions of securities issued by related entities.

Ownership of Related Companies. Some of our directors and executive officers own equity securities of several companies related to us.

Ownership of Kronos Worldwide and Valhi. The following table and footnotes set forth the beneficial ownership, as of the record date, of the shares of common stock of Kronos Worldwide and Valhi held by each of our directors, each named executive officer and all of our directors and executive officers as a group. All information is taken from or based upon ownership filings made by such individuals or entities with the SEC or upon information provided by such individuals or entities.

Name of Beneficial Owner -----	Kronos Worldwide Common Stock -----		Valhi Common -----	
	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership (1)	Percent of Class (1) (2)	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership (1)	
Harold C. Simmons.....	4,755 (4)	*	3,383 (4)	
Valhi, Inc.....	28,888,821 (4)	59.0%	n/a	
NL Industries, Inc.....	17,516,132 (4)	35.8%	n/a	
TIMET Finance Management Company.....	5,203 (4)	*	-0-	
Valhi Holding Company.....	-0- (4)	-0-	106,098,763 (4)	
Contran Corporation.....	-0- (4)	-0-	439,400 (4) (5)	
Harold Simmons Foundation, Inc	-0- (4)	-0-	1,006,500 (4)	
The Combined Master Retirement Trust.....	-0- (4)	-0-	115,000 (4)	
Annette C. Simmons.....	36,356 (4)	*	43,400 (4)	
Annette Simmons Grandchildren's Trust.....	-0- (4)	-0-	36,500 (4)	
	46,451,267	94.9%	107,742,946	
Cecil H. Moore, Jr.....	1,012 (4)	*	-0-	
Glenn R. Simmons.....	708 (4)	*	12,247 (4) (6)	
Thomas P. Stafford.....	5 (4)	*	-0-	
Steven L. Watson.....	4,733 (4)	*	117,246 (4) (7)	
Terry N. Worrell.....	-0- (4)	-0-	-0-	
Robert D. Graham.....	-0- (4)	-0-	-0- (4)	
Gregory M. Swalwell.....	-0- (4)	-0-	101,166 (4) (7)	
Kelly D. Luttmer.....	-0- (4)	-0-	66,600 (4) (7)	
James W. Brown.....	-0- (4)	-0-	-0-	
All our directors and executive officers as a group (11 persons).....	46,457,725 (4)	94.9%	108,040,205 (4) (5) (6)	

* Less than 1%.

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

- (1) Except as otherwise noted, the listed entities, individuals or group have sole investment power and sole voting power as to all shares set forth opposite their names. The number of shares and percentage of ownership for each individual or group assumes the exercise by such individual or group (exclusive of others) of stock options that such individual or group may exercise within 60 days subsequent to the record date.
- (2) The percentages are based on 48,949,549 shares of Kronos Worldwide common stock outstanding as of the record date.
- (3) The percentages are based on 115,778,278 shares of Valhi common stock outstanding as of the record date. For purposes of calculating the outstanding shares of Valhi common stock as of the record date, 3,522,967 and 1,186,200 shares of Valhi common stock held by us and a subsidiary of ours, respectively, are treated as treasury stock for voting purposes and excluded from the amount of Valhi common stock outstanding.
- (4) See footnote (4) to the "Ownership of NL" table for a description of certain relationships among the individuals, entities or groups appearing in this table. All of our directors or executive officers disclaim beneficial ownership of any shares of Kronos Worldwide common stock that we directly or indirectly own. All of our directors or executive officers who are also directors or executive officers of any of our parent companies or the Foundation disclaim beneficial ownership of the shares of Kronos Worldwide or Valhi common stock that such entities directly or indirectly own.

Other than the securities he holds directly, Harold C. Simmons disclaims beneficial ownership of any and all securities that his wife, Annette C. Simmons, directly or indirectly owns.

- (5) Represents the 439,400 shares of Valhi common stock the CDCT No. 2 directly holds.
- (6) The shares of Valhi common stock shown as beneficially owned by Glenn R. Simmons include 800 shares his wife holds in her retirement account, with respect to which shares he disclaims beneficial ownership.
- (7) The shares of Valhi common stock shown as beneficially owned by such person include the following number of shares such person has the right to acquire upon the exercise of stock options granted pursuant to Valhi's stock option plans that such person may exercise within 60 days subsequent to the record date:

Name of Beneficial Owner	Shares of Stock Issued Exercisable On or Before
Steven L. Watson.....	
Gregory M. Swalwell.....	
Kelly D. Luttmer.....	

Ownership of CompX. The following table and footnotes set forth the beneficial ownership, as of the record date, of the CompX class A and B common stock held by each of our directors, each named executive officer and all of our directors and executive officers as a group. All information is taken from or

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

based upon ownership filings made by such individuals or entities with the SEC or upon information provided by such individuals or entities.

Beneficial Owner -----	CompX Class A Common Stock		Percent of Class (2) (3)	CompX Class B Common Stock (1)		Per of C (2)
	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership (2)			Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership (2)		
Harold C. Simmons.....	56,900	(4)	1.1%	-0-	(4)	-
CompX Group, Inc.....	2,586,820	(4)	49.4%	10,000,000	(4)	100
TIMET Finance Management Company.....	483,600	(4)	9.2%	-0-	(4)	-
NL Industries, Inc.....	250,004	(4)	4.8%	-0-	(4)	-
Annette C. Simmons.....	20,000	(4)	*	-0-	(4)	-
	-----			-----		
	3,397,324	(4)	64.9%	10,000,000	(4)	100
Cecil H. Moore, Jr.....	-0-	(4)	-0-	-0-	(4)	-
Glenn R. Simmons.....	71,100	(4) (5) (6)	1.3%	-0-	(4)	-
Thomas P. Stafford.....	-0-	(4)	-0-	-0-	(4)	-
Steven L. Watson.....	21,600	(4) (5)	*	-0-	(4)	-
Terry N. Worrell.....	-0-	(4)	-0-	-0-	(4)	-
Robert D. Graham.....	-0-	(4)	-0-	-0-	(4)	-
Gregory M. Swalwell.....	5,000	(4) (5)	*	-0-	(4)	-
Kelly D. Luttmer.....	4,200	(4) (5)	*	-0-	(4)	-
James W. Brown.....	-0-	(4)	-0-	-0-	(4)	-
All our directors and executive officers as a group (11 persons)	3,499,224	(4) (5) (6)	65.8%	10,000,000	(4)	100.

* Less than 1%.

- (1) Each share of CompX class B common stock entitles the holder to one vote on all matters except the election of directors, on which each share is entitled to ten votes. In certain instances, shares of CompX class B common stock are automatically convertible into shares of CompX class A common stock.
- (2) Except as otherwise noted, the listed entities, individuals or group have sole investment power and sole voting power as to all shares set forth opposite their names. The number of shares and percentage of ownership for each individual or group assumes the exercise by such individual or group (exclusive of others) of stock options that such individual or group may exercise within 60 days subsequent to the record date.
- (3) The percentages are based on 5,234,280 shares of CompX class A common stock outstanding as of the record date and 10,000,000 shares of CompX class B common stock outstanding as of the record date.
- (4) We and TFMC directly hold 82.4% and 17.6%, respectively, of the outstanding shares of CGI common stock. Valhi holds indirectly through CGI, TFMC and us approximately 87.4% of the combined voting power of the outstanding shares

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

of CompX class A and class B common stock (approximately 98.2% for the election of directors).

All of our directors or executive officers disclaim beneficial ownership of any shares of CompX common stock that we directly own. All of our directors or executive officers who are also directors or executive officers of CGI, TFMC or their parent companies disclaim beneficial ownership of the shares of CompX common stock that such entities directly hold.

Other than the securities he holds directly, Harold C. Simmons disclaims beneficial ownership of any and all securities that his wife, Annette C. Simmons, directly or indirectly owns.

- (5) The shares of CompX class A common stock shown as beneficially owned by such person include the following number of shares such person has the right to acquire upon the exercise of stock options that such person or group may exercise within 60 days subsequent to the record date:

Name of Beneficial Owner	Shares of Common St the Exercis On or Befo
Glenn R. Simmons.....	
Steven L. Watson.....	
Gregory M. Swalwell.....	
Kelly D. Luttmer.....	

- (6) The shares of CompX class A common stock shown as beneficially owned by Glenn R. Simmons include 500 shares his wife holds in her retirement account, with respect to which shares he disclaims beneficial ownership.

COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND OTHER INFORMATION

Compensation of Directors. In 2005, our directors received an annual retainer of \$20,000, paid in quarterly installments, plus a fee of \$1,000 per day for attendance at meetings and at a daily rate (\$125 per hour) for other services rendered on behalf of our board of directors or its committees. The chairman of our audit committee and any member of our audit committee whom the board identified as an "audit committee financial expert" for purposes of the annual proxy statement received an annual retainer of \$10,000, paid in quarterly installments (provided that if one person served in both capacities only one such retainer was paid), and other members of our audit committee received an annual retainer of \$5,000, paid in quarterly installments. If one of our directors dies while serving on our board of directors, his designated beneficiary or estate will be entitled to receive a death benefit equal to the annual retainer then in effect. We reimburse our directors for reasonable expenses incurred in attending meetings and in the performance of other services rendered on behalf of our board of directors or its committees. In addition, Gen. Stafford (ret.) receives an annual payment of \$15,000 as a result of his service on our board of directors prior to 1987.

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

On the day of each annual shareholder meeting, each of our directors receives a grant of shares of our common stock as determined by the following formula based on the closing price of a share of our common stock on the date of such meeting.

Range of Closing Price Per Share on the Date of Grant	Shares of Common Stock to Be Granted
-----	-----
Under \$5.00	2,000
\$5.00 to \$9.99	1,500
\$10.00 to \$20.00	1,000
Over \$20.00	500

As a result of the \$15.37 per share closing price of our common stock on May 19, 2005, the date of our 2005 annual shareholder meeting, each of our directors elected on that date received a grant of 1,000 shares of our common stock.

Intercompany Services Agreements. Contran and certain of its subsidiaries, including us, have entered into ISAs pursuant to which Contran, among other things, provides the services of all of our named executive officers to certain of Contran's subsidiaries, including us, our subsidiaries and Kronos Worldwide. For a discussion of these ISAs, see "Certain Relationships and Transactions--Intercompany Services Agreements."

Summary of Cash and Certain Other Compensation of Executive Officers. The summary compensation table below provides information concerning annual and long-term compensation we, our subsidiaries and Kronos Worldwide paid or accrued for services rendered during the past three years by our chief executive officer and each of the four other most highly compensated individuals (based on ISA charges to us, our subsidiaries and Kronos Worldwide) who were our executive officers at December 31, 2005. All of our named executive officers were employees of Contran for the past three years and provided their services to us, our subsidiaries and Kronos Worldwide pursuant to the ISAs. For a discussion of these ISAs, see "Certain Relationships and Transactions--Intercompany Services Agreements."

SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE (1)

Name and Principal Position	Year	Annual
-----	----	-----
Harold C. Simmons..... Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer	2005 2004 2003	\$
Robert D. Graham..... Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary	2005 2004 2003	
Gregory M. Swalwell..... Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer	2005 2004 2003	
James W. Brown..... Vice President and Controller	2005 2004 2003	

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

Kelly D. Luttmer.....	2005
Vice President and Tax Director	2004
	2003

- (1) For the periods presented, no named executive officer received a "bonus," "other annual compensation," "long-term compensation" or "other compensation" as defined by SEC rules, from us, our subsidiaries or Kronos Worldwide. Therefore, the columns for bonus, other annual compensation, long-term compensation and other compensation have been omitted.
- (2) The amounts shown in the summary compensation table as salary for each named executive officer represent the portion of the fees we, our subsidiaries or Kronos Worldwide paid to Contran pursuant to certain ISAs with respect to the services such officer rendered to us, our subsidiaries or Kronos Worldwide. The amount shown in the table as salary for Mr. Simmons also includes director compensation paid to him by us and Kronos Worldwide. The components of salary shown in the summary compensation table for each of our named executive officers are as follows.

	2003	2004	
	-----	-----	
Harold C. Simmons			
ISA Fees:			
NL	\$ 761,000	\$ 950,000	
CompX.....	n/a (a)	1,000,000	
Kronos Worldwide.....	190,000 (b)	950,000 (b)	
NL Cash Director Fees.....	23,500	24,000	
NL Director Stock.....	16,330	11,410	
Kronos Worldwide Cash Director Fees.....	-0-	23,000	
Kronos Worldwide Director Stock.....	-0-	15,005	
	-----	-----	
	\$ 990,830	\$ 2,973,415	
	=====	=====	
Robert D. Graham			
ISA Fees:			
NL	\$ 20,000	\$ 312,900 (c)	
CompX.....	n/a (a)	8,900	
Kronos Worldwide.....	-0- (b)	149,000 (b)	
	-----	-----	
	\$ 20,000	\$ 470,800	
	=====	=====	
Gregory M. Swalwell			
ISA Fees:			
NL	\$ 154,000	\$ 113,700	
CompX.....	n/a (a)	39,000	
Kronos Worldwide.....	-0- (b)	170,600 (b)	
	-----	-----	
	\$ 154,000	\$ 323,300	
	=====	=====	
James W. Brown			
ISA Fees:			
NL	\$ -0-	\$ 50,500	
CompX.....	n/a (a)	-0-	

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

Kronos Worldwide.....	-0-	(b)	201,900	(b)
	-----		-----	
	\$	-0-	\$	252,400
	=====		=====	
Kelly D. Luttmer				
ISA Fees:				
NL	\$	8,000	\$	84,600 (c)
CompX.....		n/a (a)		35,000
Kronos Worldwide.....		-0- (b)		160,800 (b)
	-----		-----	
	\$	8,000	\$	280,400
	=====		=====	

- (a) Prior to September 24, 2004, CompX was not one of our subsidiaries and therefore any ISA charges to CompX for such executive officer's compensation are not included in the summary compensation table for 2003. The 2003 ISA charges for our named executive officers to CompX were as follows:

Named Executive Officer	2003 to
-----	-----
Harold C. Simmons.....	\$1,
Robert D. Graham.....	
Gregory M. Swalwell.....	
James W. Brown.....	
Kelly D. Luttmer.....	

- (b) Other than Mr. Simmons, the 2003 ISA charges to Kronos Worldwide and its subsidiaries for our named executive officers' services were not specifically identifiable to a particular officer and were not allocable between Kronos Worldwide and KII. In 2004 and 2005, the ISA charges to Kronos Worldwide were identifiable to each named executive officer and include amounts allocable to KII.
- (c) Includes amounts allocated to EWI Re, Inc., one of our wholly owned subsidiaries, under the ISA between Contran and NL.

No Grants of Stock Options or Stock Appreciation Rights. Neither we nor any of our parent or subsidiary corporations granted any stock options or stock appreciation rights to our named executive officers during 2005.

Stock Option Exercises and Holdings. The following table provides information with respect to the amount Harold C. Simmons realized in 2005 upon the exercise of certain of his stock options for our common stock and the value of our named executive officers' unexercised stock options for common stock of us or our parents or subsidiaries as of December 31, 2005. Messrs. Graham and Brown did not exercise any such stock options in 2005 and do not hold any such stock options at the end of 2005. Neither we nor any of our parent or subsidiary

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

companies has granted any stock appreciation rights nor has Kronos Worldwide granted any stock options.

AGGREGATE STOCK OPTION EXERCISES IN 2005 AND DECEMBER 31, 2005 OPTION VALUES

Name	Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized	Number of Shares Underlying Unexercised Options at December 31, 2005 (#)		Value Realized at Dec
			Exercisable	Unexercisable	
Harold C. Simmons					
NL Stock Options.....	2,000	\$30,795 (2)	4,000	-0-	\$ 22,2
Gregory M. Swalwell					
Valhi Stock Options....	-0-	-0-	100,000	-0-	849,9
CompX Stock Options....	-0-	-0-	5,000	-0-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-0-	-0-	105,000	-0-	849,9
Kelly D. Luttmer					
Valhi Stock Options....	-0-	-0-	66,600	-0-	511,8
CompX Stock Options....	-0-	-0-	4,000	-0-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-0-	-0-	70,600	-0-	511,8

(1) Each aggregate value is based on the difference between the exercise price of the individual stock options and the closing sale price per share of the underlying common stock on December 31, 2005. Such closing sale prices were \$14.09 per share for our common stock, \$18.50 per share for Valhi common stock and \$16.02 per share for CompX class A common stock.

(2) The value realized for this exercise is based on the difference between the average of the high and low sales prices per share of our common stock on the day of the exercise and the exercise price per share.

Pension Plans. The Retirement Program of NL Industries, Inc. for its U.S. employees provides lifetime retirement benefits to eligible employees. In 1996, NL approved the suspension of all future accruals under the salaried component of this pension plan. No named executive officer is entitled to a benefit payable under this pension plan upon retirement at normal retirement age.

EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION

The following table provides summary information as of December 31, 2005 with respect to equity compensation plans under which our equity securities may be issued to employees or nonemployees (such as directors, consultants, advisers, vendors, customers, suppliers and lenders) in exchange for goods or services.

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

	Column (A)	Column (B)	
Plan Category	Number of Securities to Issued Upon Exercise of be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights	Weighted-Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights	Numb Remai Futu Equi PL Secur
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders.....	127,850	\$9.11	
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders.....	-0-	-0-	
Total.....	127,850	\$9.11	

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE DOCUMENTS

Code of Business Conduct and Ethics. We have adopted a code of business conduct and ethics that applies to all of our directors, officers and employees, including our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer and controller. Only the board of directors may amend the code. Only our audit committee or other committee of the board of directors with specific delegated authority may grant a waiver of this code. We will disclose amendments to or waivers of the code as required by law and the applicable rules of the NYSE.

Corporate Governance Guidelines. We have adopted corporate governance guidelines to assist the board of directors in exercising its responsibilities. Among other things, the corporate governance guidelines provide for director qualifications, for independence standards and responsibilities, for approval procedures for ISAs and that our audit committee chairman presides at all meetings of the non-management or independent directors.

Audit Committee Charter. We have adopted an amended and restated audit committee charter under which our audit committee operates. Among other things, our audit committee charter provides the purpose, authority, resources and responsibilities of the committee.

A copy of each of these three documents, among others, is available on our website at www.nl-ind.com under the corporate governance section. A copy of the amended and restated audit committee charter is also attached as Exhibit A to this proxy statement. In addition, any person may obtain a copy of these three documents without charge, by sending a written request to the attention of our corporate secretary at NL Industries, Inc., Three Lincoln Centre, 5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700, Dallas, Texas 75240-2697.

SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act requires our executive officers, directors and persons who own more than 10% of a registered class of our equity securities to file reports of ownership with the SEC, the NYSE and us. Based solely on the review of the copies of such forms and representations

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

by certain reporting persons, we believe that for 2005 our executive officers, directors and 10% shareholders complied with all applicable filing requirements under section 16(a) except that after its formation in August 2005 as a parent company of Valhi, VHC failed to file timely its Form 3.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION REPORT

During 2005, our management development and compensation committee administered certain matters regarding the compensation of our executive officers.

NL ISA

During 2005, we paid certain fees to Contran for services provided pursuant to an ISA between Contran and us. Such services provided under this ISA included the services of all of our executive officers.

Contran annually determines the aggregate fee to charge us and our privately held subsidiaries based on the following:

- o an estimate of the amount of time each Contran employee that performs services for us and certain of our privately held subsidiaries will spend on such services over the year; and
- o Contran's cost related to such employee, which includes the employee's base salary, incentive compensation and an overhead component that takes into account other employment costs, including medical benefits, unemployment and disability insurance and pension costs and other costs of providing an office, equipment and supplies related to the provision of such services.

The portion of the annual charge we pay under the ISA between us and Contran for the services of any particular individual is capped at \$1.0 million in the aggregate to enhance our ability to deduct such charge for federal income tax purposes. The amount of the fee we paid in 2005 under this ISA for a person who provided services to us or our privately held subsidiaries represents, in management's view, the reasonable equivalent of "compensation" for such services. It is also management's view that the proposed aggregate charge to us under this ISA is fair to us and our shareholders and the cost for the services provided under the ISA would be no less favorable to us than could otherwise be obtained from an unrelated third party for comparable services. See "Certain Relationships and Transactions--Intercompany Services Agreements" for the aggregate amount we paid to Contran in 2005 under this ISA. For each named executive officer, the portion of the annual charge we paid in 2005 to Contran under this ISA attributable to the services of such executive officer is set forth in footnote (2) to the summary compensation table in this proxy statement. The amounts charged under this ISA are not dependent upon our financial performance.

For 2005, our management development and compensation committee reviewed documentation and discussed with management Contran's ISA allocation process, including how Contran determined the necessary personnel, the estimated number of full time employees that would be required to provide the services and the cost of such services under this ISA. The committee then recommended that our board of directors approve the 2005 aggregate service charge for the proposed Contran services to be rendered to us and certain of our privately held subsidiaries under the ISA after concluding that:

- o the cost to employ the additional personnel necessary to perform the quality of the services provided by Contran would exceed the proposed 2005 aggregate fee to be charged by Contran under this ISA; and

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

- o the cost for such services would be no less favorable than could otherwise be obtained from an unrelated third party for comparable services.

Upon receiving the recommendation of our management development and compensation committee that the ISA charge to us and our privately held subsidiaries was fair and reasonable to us and our shareholders and that it was in our best interests to continue receiving such services presently provided by Contran, our independent directors, with our other directors abstaining, approved the 2005 aggregate charge to us under this ISA.

In making these determinations, our management development and compensation committee relied on their collective business experience and judgment. The committee did not review any 2005 ISA charges from Contran to any of our publicly held subsidiaries or their subsidiaries, which charges were reviewed by the management development and compensation committee of the applicable publicly held subsidiary.

Common Stock Based Compensation

In 2005, our management development and compensation committee administered matters regarding the common stock based compensation of our executive officers. In 2005, management did not recommend any common stock based compensation, and our management development and compensation committee did not grant any such compensation to any executive officers other than annual stock grants to our directors, including our chief executive officer, for their services as directors. Our management development and compensation committee does not currently anticipate granting common stock based compensation to anyone in 2006 other than these annual grants of stock to our directors. See "Compensation of Directors and Executive Officers and Other Information -- Compensation of Directors."

Deductibility of Compensation

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 generally disallows a tax deduction to public companies for non-performance based compensation over \$1.0 million paid to the company's chief executive officer and four other most highly compensated executive officers. It is our general policy to structure the performance-based portion of the compensation of our executive officers in a manner that enhances our ability to deduct fully such compensation.

The following individuals, in the capacities indicated, hereby submit the foregoing report.

Thomas P. Stafford
Chairman of our Management Development
and Compensation Committee

Terry N. Worrell
Member of our Management Development
and Compensation Committee

CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND TRANSACTIONS

Relationships with Related Parties. As set forth under "Security Ownership," Harold C. Simmons, through Contran, may be deemed to control us. We and other entities that may be deemed to be controlled by or related to Mr. Simmons sometimes engage in the following:

- o intercorporate transactions, such as guarantees, management and expense sharing arrangements, shared fee arrangements, tax sharing

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

agreements, joint ventures, partnerships, loans, options, advances of funds on open account and sales, leases and exchanges of assets, including securities issued by both related and unrelated parties; and

- o common investment and acquisition strategies, business combinations, reorganizations, recapitalizations, securities repurchases and purchases and sales (and other acquisitions and dispositions) of subsidiaries, divisions or other business units, which transactions have involved both related and unrelated parties and have included transactions that resulted in the acquisition by one related party of an equity interest in another related party.

We periodically consider, review and evaluate and understand that Contran and related entities periodically consider, review and evaluate such transactions. Depending upon the business, tax and other objectives then relevant and restrictions under indentures and other agreements, it is possible that we might be a party to one or more of such transactions in the future. In connection with these activities, we may consider issuing additional equity securities or incurring additional indebtedness. Our acquisition activities have in the past and may in the future include participation in acquisition or restructuring activities conducted by other companies that may be deemed to be related to Harold C. Simmons. It is our policy to engage in transactions with related parties on terms, in our opinion, no less favorable to us than could be obtained from unrelated parties.

Certain directors or executive officers of Contran, CompX, Keystone, Kronos Worldwide, TIMET or Valhi also serve as our directors or executive officers. Such relationships may lead to possible conflicts of interest. These possible conflicts of interest may arise from the duties of loyalty owed by persons acting as corporate fiduciaries to two or more companies under circumstances in which such companies may have adverse interests. No specific procedures are in place that govern the treatment of transactions among us and our related entities, although such entities may implement specific procedures as appropriate for particular transactions. In addition, under applicable principles of law, in the absence of shareholder ratification or approval by directors who may be deemed disinterested, transactions involving contracts among companies under common control must be fair to all companies involved. Furthermore, directors owe fiduciary duties of good faith and fair dealing to all shareholders of the companies for which they serve.

Intercompany Services Agreements. We and certain related companies have entered into ISAs. Under the ISAs, employees of one company provide certain services, including executive officer services, to the other company on a fee basis. The services rendered under the ISAs may include executive, management, financial, internal audit, accounting, tax, legal, insurance, risk management, treasury, aviation, human resources, technical, consulting, administrative, office, occupancy and other services as required from time to time in the ordinary course of the recipient's business. The fees paid pursuant to the ISAs are generally based upon an estimate of the time devoted by employees of the provider of the services to the affairs of the recipient and the employer's cost related to such employees, which includes the employees' cash compensation and an overhead component that takes into account the employer's other costs related to the employees. Each of the ISAs in their current form extends on a quarter-to-quarter basis, generally subject to the termination by either party pursuant to a written notice delivered 30 days prior to the start of the next quarter. Because of the large number of companies related to Contran and us, we believe we benefit from cost savings and economies of scale gained by not having certain management, financial and administrative staffs duplicated at each entity, thus allowing certain individuals to provide services to multiple companies but only be compensated by one entity. With respect to a publicly held company that is a party to an ISA, the ISA and the related aggregate annual charge is approved by the independent directors of the company after receiving a

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

recommendation from the company's management development and compensation committee.

The following table describes the fees paid by us, our subsidiaries and Kronos Worldwide to Contran in 2005 and the amount anticipated to be paid to Contran in 2006 for services Contran provided us or our subsidiaries under the various ISAs.

Recipient of Services from Contran under an ISA	Fees Paid to Contran under the ISA in 2005 -----	(In mi
NL Industries, Inc.....	4.227	(1)
Kronos Worldwide, Inc.....	5.729	(1)
CompX International Inc.....	2.625	(2)

Total.....	\$ 12.581	(1) (2)
	=====	

-
- (1) In addition to the reported ISA charges, we and Kronos Worldwide also pay Messrs. Glenn and Harold Simmons and Watson for their services as directors.
- (2) In addition to the reported ISA charges, CompX also pays Messrs. Glenn Simmons and Watson for their services as directors of CompX.

Short-Swing Trading Profits. From December 2004 through April 2005, we sold shares of Kronos Worldwide common stock in the open market. From June 2004 through October 2005, Valhi purchased shares of Kronos Worldwide common stock in the open market. Pursuant to section 16(b) of the Securities Exchange Act, certain of such sales and purchases might be deemed to be matched for purposes of computing short-swing profits. As a result, Valhi made several voluntary payments to Kronos Worldwide concurrently with a potentially matching transaction aggregating approximately \$600,000 and \$1.2 million for 2004 and 2005, respectively, which amounts represent the maximum amount of any possible short-swing profits resulting from these transactions.

Loans between Related Parties. In 2001, a wholly owned subsidiary of NL Environmental Management Services, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of ours, loaned \$20 million to the Harold C. Simmons Family Trust No. 2, a trust established for the benefit of certain children and grandchildren of Harold C. Simmons of which Mr. Simmons is the sole trustee, under a \$25 million revolving credit agreement. Special independent committees of our and NL Environmental Management Services, Inc.'s boards of directors approved the loan. The loan bore interest at the prime rate, was due on demand with sixty days notice and was collateralized by 13,749 shares, or approximately 35%, of Contran's outstanding class A voting common stock and 5,000 shares, or 100%, of Contran's series E cumulative preferred stock, both of which are owned by the Harold C. Simmons Family Trust No. 2. The value of this collateral is dependent in part on our value as Contran's interest in us is one of Contran's more substantial assets. In 2005, the trust fully repaid the loan with payments of approximately \$10.5 million of principal and interest and the revolving credit agreement was terminated in October 2005.

From time to time, other loans and advances are made between us and various related parties pursuant to term and demand notes. These loans and advances are

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

entered into principally for cash management purposes. When we loan funds to related parties, the lender is generally able to earn a higher rate of return on the loan than the lender would earn if the funds were invested in other instruments. While certain of such loans may be of a lesser credit quality than cash equivalent instruments otherwise available to us, we believe that we have evaluated the credit risks involved, and that those risks are reasonable and reflected in the terms of the applicable loans. When we borrow from related parties, we are generally able to pay a lower rate of interest than we would pay if we borrowed from unrelated parties.

Interest income on all loans to unconsolidated related parties was \$0.5 million in 2005, which represents interest earned on the loan from NL Environmental Management Services, Inc. to the Harold C. Simmons Family Trust No. 2. We did not incur any interest expense on loans from unconsolidated related parties in 2005.

Formation of CompX Group, Inc. Subsequent to our acquisition in September 2004 of 68.4% of the then outstanding shares of CompX common stock owned by Valhi and its wholly owned subsidiary, Valcor, Inc., and pursuant to a subscription agreement, we and TFMC capitalized CGI by each contributing to CGI 68.4% and 14.6%, respectively, of the then outstanding shares of CompX common stock. As a result of this initial contribution, we and TFMC held 82.4% and 17.6% of the outstanding shares of common stock of CGI, respectively. In the subscription agreement, CGI agreed that it would not sell any of the shares of CompX common stock contributed to CGI by TFMC without the express written consent of TFMC. In addition, in accordance with the subscription agreement, the parties entered into a voting agreement that provides, among other things, that we will elect one nominee of TFMC to CGI's five member board of directors.

Pursuant to CGI's certificate of incorporation, upon the written request of a CGI stockholder, CGI is obligated to redeem such number of the stockholder's shares of CGI common stock that the stockholder requests. The CGI stockholder is also entitled to elect to receive as part of the redemption price such number of shares of CompX class A or class B common stock that the holder contributed to CGI based on the same ratio of shares of CGI received in the initial contribution. CGI's board of directors is then obligated to determine in good faith and in its best business judgment the redemption price. Pursuant to CGI's certificate of incorporation, in determining the redemption price, the board of directors shall value each share of CompX common stock held by CGI at the volume weighted average sale price of a share of CompX class A common stock for the ten trading days ending on the day CGI receives the redemption request.

With the initial capitalization of CGI, CompX became eligible to file consolidated returns of U.S. federal income taxes with us and Contran. See "--Tax Matters" below for a discussion of this relationship with us and Contran.

Insurance Matters. We and Contran participate in a combined risk management program. Pursuant to the program, Contran and certain of its subsidiaries and related entities, including us and certain of our subsidiaries and related entities, purchase certain of their insurance policies as a group, with the costs of the jointly owned policies being apportioned among the participating companies. Tall Pines and EWI RE, Inc. provide for or broker these insurance policies. Tall Pines is a captive insurance company wholly owned by Valhi, and EWI RE, Inc. is reinsurance brokerage and risk management firm wholly owned by us. Consistent with insurance industry practices, Tall Pines and EWI RE, Inc. receive commissions from insurance and reinsurance underwriters for the policies that they provide or broker.

With respect to certain of such jointly owned insurance policies, it is possible that unusually large losses incurred by one or more insureds during a given policy period could leave the other participating companies without adequate coverage under that policy for the balance of the policy period. As a

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

result, Contran and certain of its subsidiaries or related companies, including us, have entered into a loss sharing agreement under which any uninsured loss is shared by those companies who have submitted claims under the relevant policy. We believe the benefits in the form of reduced premiums and broader coverage associated with the group coverage for such policies justify the risks associated with the potential for any uninsured loss.

During 2005, we, CompX and Kronos Worldwide paid premiums of approximately \$10.0 million for insurance policies Tall Pines provided or EWI RE, Inc. brokered, including approximately \$1.3 million paid by Louisiana Pigment Company, L.P., a partnership of which a wholly owned subsidiary of Kronos Worldwide and a subsidiary of Huntsman LLC each own 50%. These amounts principally included payments for reinsurance and insurance premiums paid to unrelated third parties, but also included commissions paid to Tall Pines and EWI RE, Inc. Tall Pines purchases reinsurance for substantially all of the risks it underwrites. In our opinion, the amounts that we, our subsidiaries and Louisiana Pigment Company, L.P. paid for these insurance policies and the allocation among us and our related entities of relative insurance premiums are reasonable and at least as favorable to those we or they could have obtained through unrelated insurance companies or brokers. We expect that these relationships with Tall Pines and EWI RE, Inc. will continue in 2006.

Tax Matters. We and our qualifying subsidiaries are members of the consolidated U.S. federal tax return of which Contran is the parent company, which we refer to as the "Contran Tax Group." As a member of the Contran Tax Group and pursuant to certain tax sharing agreements, each of the members and its qualifying subsidiaries compute provisions for U.S. income taxes on a separate company basis using tax elections made by Contran. Pursuant to the tax sharing agreements and using tax elections made by Contran, each of the parties makes payments or receives payments in amounts it would have paid to or received from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service had it not been a member of the Contran Tax Group but instead had been a separate taxpayer. Refunds are generally limited to amounts previously paid under the respective tax sharing agreement. We and our qualifying subsidiaries are also a part of consolidated tax returns filed by Contran in certain U.S. state jurisdictions. The terms of the applicable tax sharing agreements also apply to state payments to these jurisdictions.

Under applicable law, we, as well as every other member of the Contran Tax Group, are each jointly and severally liable for the aggregate federal income tax liability of Contran and the other companies included in the group for all periods in which we are included in the group. Valhi has agreed, however, to indemnify us for any liability for income taxes of the Contran Tax Group in excess of our tax liability previously computed and paid by us in accordance with the tax allocation policy.

Prior to December 2003, Kronos Worldwide was a wholly owned subsidiary of ours. In December 2003, in conjunction with a recapitalization of Kronos Worldwide, we completed the distribution of approximately 48.8% of Kronos Worldwide's common stock on a pro rata basis to our shareholders (including Valhi and Tremont). Our shareholders received one share of Kronos Worldwide common stock for every two shares of our common stock held. During 2004 and the first quarter of 2005, we paid an aggregate of five quarterly dividends in the form of shares of Kronos Worldwide common stock in which an aggregate of approximately 1.5 million shares of Kronos Worldwide common stock (3.0% of Kronos Worldwide's outstanding shares of common stock) were distributed to our shareholders in the form of pro rata dividends.

Our 2003, 2004 and 2005 distributions of shares of common stock of Kronos Worldwide were taxable to us and we were required to recognize such tax liability for financial reporting purposes. On November 30, 2004, we and Valhi agreed to pay Valhi the tax liability generated from the distribution of shares

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

of Kronos Worldwide common stock to Valhi and Tremont, including the tax liability related to such shares distributed to Valhi and Tremont in December 2003 and the tax liability related to the shares distributed to Valhi during all of 2004. We and Valhi further agreed that in lieu of a cash income tax payment, such tax liability could be paid by us to Valhi in the form of shares of Kronos Worldwide common stock. Such tax liability related to the shares of Kronos Worldwide common stock distributed to Valhi and Tremont in 2003 and 2004, including the tax liability resulting from the use of Kronos Worldwide common stock to settle such liability, aggregated approximately \$227 million. Accordingly, in the fourth quarter of 2004 we transferred approximately 5.5 million shares of Kronos Worldwide common stock to Valhi in satisfaction of such tax liability and the tax liability generated from the use of such Kronos Worldwide shares to settle such tax liability. In agreeing to settle such tax liability with such 5.5 million shares of Kronos Worldwide common stock, the Kronos Worldwide shares were valued at an agreed-upon price of \$41 per share. Kronos Worldwide's average closing market price during the months of November and December 2004 was \$41.53 and \$41.77, respectively. The tax liability related to the shares of Kronos Worldwide distributed to Valhi in the first quarter of 2005 aggregated \$3.0 million, and we paid such tax liability to Valhi in cash. Such income tax liabilities will become payable by Valhi to Contran, and by Contran to the applicable tax authority when the shares of Kronos Worldwide common stock transferred or distributed by us to Valhi and Tremont are sold or otherwise transferred outside the Contran Tax Group or in the event of certain restructuring transactions involving us and Valhi.

Under certain circumstances, tax regulations could require Contran to treat items differently than we would have treated them on a stand alone basis. In such instances, accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require us to conform to Contran's tax elections. In addition to the \$3.0 million payment from us to Valhi discussed above, in 2005 pursuant to the tax sharing agreements, we paid approximately \$1.7 million in cash, and Kronos Worldwide paid approximately \$7.7 million in cash, to Valhi.

Simmons Family Matters. Certain family members of our chairman of the board, Harold C. Simmons, provide services to us and our subsidiaries, including, CompX and Kronos Worldwide, pursuant to certain ISAs. In 2005, Glenn R. Simmons, our chairman's brother, and James C. Epstein, our chairman's son-in-law, provided certain executive and risk management services, respectively, to us and our subsidiaries pursuant to ISAs. The portion of the fees we and our subsidiaries paid to Contran in 2005 pursuant to these ISAs for the services of each of Messrs. Glenn Simmons and Epstein was \$56,500 and \$140,200, respectively. We and our subsidiaries expect to pay Contran similar amounts for these services in 2006. Mr. Glenn Simmons also received additional aggregate compensation of approximately \$115,500 in cash and stock from us, CompX and Kronos Worldwide for his services as a director for 2005 and is expected to continue to receive similar compensation for 2006. In 2005, he also realized an aggregate of approximately \$13,000 from the exercise of stock options we and CompX had granted him.

PERFORMANCE GRAPH

Set forth below is a line graph comparing the yearly change in the cumulative total shareholder return on our common stock against the cumulative total return of the S&P 500 Composite Stock Price Index and the S&P 500 Industrial Conglomerates Index for the period of five fiscal years commencing December 31, 2000 and ending December 31, 2005. The graph shows the value at December 31 of each year assuming an original investment of \$100 and the

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

reinvestment of cash dividends and other distributions.

Comparison of Cumulative Return among NL Industries,
Inc. Common Stock, the S&P 500 Index and the
S&P 500 Industrial Conglomerates Index

[PERFORMANCE GRAPH OMITTED]

	December 31,			
	2000	2001	2002	2003
NL Industries, Inc. (1).....	\$100	\$66	\$85	\$95
S&P 500 Composite Stock Price Index.....	100	88	69	88
S&P 500 Industrial Conglomerates Index.....	100	90	53	72

- (1) In determining the value of the reinvestment of our distributions to our shareholders of Kronos Worldwide common stock on December 8, 2003 and March 29, July 5, September 28 and December 29, 2004 and March 29, 2005, the shares distributed were deemed sold and reinvested in our common stock, and in each case the shares were valued at their closing price on the payment date or the last trading date prior to the payment date, as applicable.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Our audit committee of the board of directors is comprised of three directors and operates under a written amended and restated charter adopted by the board of directors. All members of our audit committee meet the independence standards established by the board of directors and the NYSE and promulgated by the SEC under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. The amended and restated audit committee charter is attached as Exhibit A to this statement and is also available on our website at www.nl-ind.com under the corporate governance section.

Our management is responsible for, among other things, preparing its consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, or "GAAP," establishing and maintaining internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f)) and evaluating the effectiveness of such internal control over financial reporting. Our independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for auditing our consolidated financial statements in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) and for expressing an opinion on the conformity of the financial statements with GAAP. Our independent registered public accounting firm is also responsible for auditing our internal control over financial reporting in accordance with such standards and for expressing an opinion on (i) management's assessment of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting and (ii) the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audit committee assists the board of directors in fulfilling its responsibility to oversee management's implementation of our financial reporting process. In

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

its oversight role, our audit committee reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements with management and with PwC, our independent registered public accounting firm for 2005. Our audit committee also reviewed and discussed internal control over financial reporting with management and with PwC.

Our audit committee met with PwC and discussed any issues deemed significant by our independent registered public accounting firm, including the required matters to be discussed by Statement of Auditing Standards No. 61, Communication with Audit Committee, as amended. PwC has provided to our audit committee written disclosures and the letter required by Independence Standards Board No. 1, Independence Discussions with Audit Committees, and our audit committee discussed with PwC that firm's independence. Our audit committee also concluded that PwC's provision of non-audit services to us and our related entities is compatible with PwC's independence.

Based upon the foregoing considerations, our audit committee recommended to the board of directors that our audited financial statements be included in our 2005 Annual Report on Form 10-K for filing with the SEC.

Members of our audit committee of the board of directors respectfully submit the foregoing report.

Thomas P. Stafford
Chairman of our Audit Committee

Cecil H. Moore, Jr.
Member of our Audit Committee

Terry N. Worn
Member of our

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM MATTERS

Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm. PwC served as our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ended December 31, 2005. Our audit committee has appointed PwC to review our quarterly unaudited consolidated financial statements to be included in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the first three quarters of 2006. We expect PwC will be considered for appointment to audit our annual consolidated financial statements and internal control over financial reporting for the year ending December 31, 2006. Representatives of PwC are not expected to attend the annual meeting.

Fees Paid to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. The following table shows the aggregate fees that PwC has billed or is expected to bill to us, CompX or Kronos Worldwide for services rendered for 2004 and 2005 that our audit committee authorized for us and our privately held subsidiaries and the CompX or Kronos Worldwide audit committees each separately authorized for its corporation and such corporation's privately held subsidiaries. Additional audit fees for 2005 may subsequently be authorized and paid to PwC, in which case the amounts disclosed below for fees paid to PwC for 2005 would be adjusted to reflect such additional payments in our proxy statement relating to next year's annual shareholder meeting. In this regard, the audit fees shown below for 2004 have been adjusted from amounts disclosed in our proxy statement for last year's annual shareholder meeting.

Entity (1)	Audit Fees (2)	Audit Related Fees (3)	Tax Fees (4)	All Ot Fees (
------------	-------------------	------------------------------	-----------------	------------------

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

NL and Subsidiaries

2004.....	\$	446,335	\$	40,050	\$	-0-	\$	-
2005.....		320,000		49,200		-0-		-

CompX and Subsidiaries

2004.....		871,977		71,961		13,322		10,5
2005.....		665,821		6,050		23,952		-

Kronos Worldwide and Subsidiaries (6)

2004.....		2,241,259		20,236		51,735		-
2005.....		1,960,000		19,000		24,100		-

Total

2004.....	\$	3,559,571	\$	132,247	\$	\$65,057	\$	\$10,5
2005.....	\$	2,945,821	\$	74,250	\$	\$48,052	\$	-

(1) Fees are reported without duplication.

(2) Fees for the following services:

- (a) audits of consolidated year-end financial statements for each year and audit of internal control over financial reporting;
- (b) reviews of the unaudited quarterly financial statements appearing in Forms 10-Q for each of the first three quarters of each year;
- (c) consents and assistance with registration statements filed with the SEC; and
- (d) normally provided statutory or regulatory filings or engagements for each year.

(3) Fees for assurance and related services reasonably related to the audit or review of financial statements for each year. These services included employee benefit plan audits, accounting consultations and attest services concerning financial accounting and reporting standards and advice concerning internal controls.

(4) Permitted fees for tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning services.

(5) Fees for all services not described in the other categories. For 2004, the disclosed fees include fees for consultations relative to the disposition of CompX's Thomas Regout operations in Europe and research and development claims.

(6) We account for our interest in Kronos Worldwide by the equity method as of July 1, 2004.

Preapproval Policies and Procedures. For the purpose of maintaining the independence of our independent registered public accounting firm, our audit committee has adopted policies and procedures for the preapproval of audit and permitted non-audit services the firm provides to us or any of our subsidiaries other than our publicly held subsidiaries and their respective subsidiaries. We may not engage the firm to render any audit or permitted non-audit service unless the service is approved in advance by our audit committee pursuant to the committee's amended and restated preapproval policies and procedures that the committee approved on February 22, 2005. Pursuant to the policy:

- o the committee must specifically preapprove, among other things, the engagement of our independent registered public accounting firm for

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

audits and quarterly reviews of our financial statements, services associated with certain regulatory filings, including the filing of registration statements with the SEC, and services associated with potential business acquisitions and dispositions involving us; and

- o for certain categories of permitted non-audit services of our independent registered public accounting firm, the committee may preapprove limits on the aggregate fees in any calendar year without specific approval of the service.

These permitted non-audit services include:

- o audit services, such as certain consultations regarding accounting treatments or interpretations and assistance in responding to certain SEC comment letters;
- o audit-related services, such as certain other consultations regarding accounting treatments or interpretations, employee benefit plan audits, due diligence and control reviews;
- o tax services, such as tax compliance and consulting, transfer pricing, customs and duties and expatriate tax services; and
- o other permitted non-audit services, such as assistance with corporate governance matters and filing documents in foreign jurisdictions not involving the practice of law.

Pursuant to the policy, our audit committee has delegated preapproval authority to the chairman of the committee or his designee to approve any fees in excess of the annual preapproved limits for these categories of permitted non-audit services provided by our independent registered public accounting firm. The chairman must report any action taken pursuant to this delegated authority at the next meeting of the committee.

For 2005, our audit committee preapproved all PwC's services provided to us or any of our subsidiaries, other than our publicly held subsidiaries and their subsidiaries, in compliance with the amended and restated preapproval policies and procedures without the use of the SEC's de minimis exception to such preapproval requirement.

OTHER MATTERS

The board of directors knows of no other business that will be presented for consideration at the meeting. If any other matters properly come before the meeting, the persons designated as agents in the enclosed proxy card or voting instruction form will vote on such matters in accordance with their reasonable judgment.

SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS AND DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2007 ANNUAL MEETING

Shareholders may submit proposals on matters appropriate for shareholder action at our annual shareholder meetings, consistent with rules adopted by the SEC. We must receive such proposals not later than December 18, 2006 to be considered for inclusion in the proxy statement and form of proxy card relating to the annual meeting of shareholders in 2007.

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

The board of directors will consider the director nominee recommendations of our shareholders. The board of directors has no specific minimum qualifications for director candidates. The board of directors will consider a potential director nominee's ability to satisfy the need, if any, for any required expertise on the board of directors or one of its committees. Historically, our management has recommended director nominees to the board of directors. Because under the NYSE listing standards we may be deemed to be a controlled company, the board of directors believes that additional policies or procedures with regard to the consideration of director candidates recommended by its shareholders are not appropriate.

Proposals and nominations should be addressed to: Corporate Secretary, NL Industries, Inc., Three Lincoln Centre, 5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700, Dallas, Texas 75240-2697.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shareholders and other interested parties who wish to communicate with the board of directors or its non-management directors may do so through the following procedures. Such communications not involving complaints or concerns regarding accounting, internal accounting controls and auditing matters related to us may be sent to the attention of our corporate secretary at NL Industries, Inc., Three Lincoln Centre, 5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700, Dallas, Texas 75240-2697. Provided that any such communication relates to our business or affairs and is within the function of our board of directors or its committees, and does not relate to insignificant or inappropriate matters, such communications, or summaries of such communications, will be forwarded to the chairman of our audit committee, who also serves as the presiding director of our non-management and independent director meetings.

Complaints or concerns regarding accounting, internal accounting controls and auditing matters, which may be made anonymously, should be sent to the attention of our general counsel with a copy to our chief financial officer at the same address as our corporate secretary. These complaints or concerns will be forwarded to the chairman of our audit committee. We will keep these complaints or concerns confidential and anonymous, to the extent feasible, subject to applicable law. Information contained in such a complaint or concern may be summarized, abstracted and aggregated for purposes of analysis and investigation.

2005 ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K

A copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005 is included as part of the annual report mailed to our shareholders with this proxy statement and may also be accessed on our website at www.nl-ind.com.

ADDITIONAL COPIES

Pursuant to an SEC rule concerning the delivery of annual reports and proxy statements, a single set of these documents may be sent to any household at which two or more shareholders reside if they appear to be members of the same family. Each shareholder continues to receive a separate proxy card. This procedure, referred to as householding, reduces the volume of duplicate information shareholders receive and reduces mailing and printing expenses. A number of brokerage firms have instituted householding. Certain beneficial shareholders who share a single address may have received a notice that only one annual report and proxy statement would be sent to that address unless a shareholder at that address gave contrary instructions. If, at any time, a shareholder who holds shares through a broker no longer wishes to participate in householding and would prefer to receive a separate proxy statement and related

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

materials, or if such shareholder currently receives multiple copies of the proxy statement and related materials at his or her address and would like to request householding of our communications, the shareholder should notify his or her broker. Additionally, we will promptly deliver a separate copy of our 2005 annual report or this proxy statement to any shareholder at a shared address to which a single copy of such documents was delivered, upon the written or oral request of the shareholder.

To obtain copies of our 2005 annual report or this proxy statement without charge, please mail your request to the attention of Robert D. Graham, corporate secretary, at NL Industries, Inc., Three Lincoln Centre, 5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700, Dallas, Texas 75240-2697, or call him at 972.233.1700.

NL INDUSTRIES, INC.

Dallas, Texas
April 17, 2006

Appendix A

NL INDUSTRIES, INC.

AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER

AMENDED AND RESTATED JUNE 30, 2005

ARTICLE I.

PURPOSE

The audit committee assists the board of directors' oversight responsibilities relating to the financial accounting and reporting processes and auditing processes of the corporation. The audit committee shall assist in the oversight of:

- o the integrity of the corporation's financial statements and internal control over financial reporting;
- o the corporation's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements;
- o the independent auditor's qualifications and independence; and
- o the performance of the corporation's internal audit function and independent auditor.

ARTICLE II.

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CORPORATION, MANAGEMENT AND THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

Management is responsible for preparing the corporation's financial statements and maintaining internal control over financial reporting. The corporation's independent auditor is responsible for auditing the corporation's financial statements and internal control over financial reporting. The activities of the audit committee are in no way designed to supersede or alter

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

these traditional responsibilities. The corporation's independent auditor and management have more time, knowledge and detailed information about the corporation than do the audit committee members. Accordingly, the audit committee's role does not provide any special assurances with regard to the corporation's financial statements or internal control over financial reporting. Each member of the audit committee, in the performance of such member's duties, will be entitled to rely in good faith upon the information, opinions, reports or statements presented to the audit committee by any of the corporation's officers, employees, agents, counsel, experts, auditors or any other person as to matters such member reasonably believes are within such other person's professional or expert competence and who has been selected with reasonable care by or on behalf of the corporation, and nothing in this charter will, or will be deemed to, decrease or modify in any manner adverse to any member of the audit committee such member's right to rely on such information, opinions, reports or statements.

Nothing in this charter will, or will be deemed to, adversely affect in any manner the rights of members of the committee to indemnification and advancement of expenses under the corporation's certificate of incorporation or bylaws, or under any contract, agreement, arrangement or understanding that may benefit such member. In addition, notwithstanding any other provision of this charter, no provision of this charter will, except to the extent required by applicable law, rule or regulation, be construed to create any duty, liability or obligation on the part of the committee or any of its members.

ARTICLE III. AUTHORITY AND RESOURCES

The audit committee shall have the authority and resources necessary or appropriate to discharge its responsibilities. The audit committee shall be provided with full access to all books, records, facilities and personnel of the corporation in carrying out its duties. The audit committee shall have the sole authority with regard to the independent auditor as set forth in Article V, and the authority to engage independent counsel and other advisors, as it determines is necessary to carry out its duties. The corporation shall provide appropriate funding, as the audit committee determines is necessary or appropriate in carrying out its duties, for the committee to engage and compensate the independent auditor or legal counsel or other advisors to the committee, and to pay the committee's ordinary administrative expenses.

ARTICLE IV. COMPOSITION AND MEETINGS

The board of directors shall set the number of directors comprising the audit committee from time to time, which number shall not be less than three. The board of directors shall designate a chairperson of the audit committee. The number of directors comprising the audit committee and the qualifications, which members will all be financially literate with at least one being an audit committee financial expert, and independence of each member of the audit committee shall at all times satisfy all applicable requirements, regulations or laws, including, without limitation, the rules of any exchange or national securities association on which the corporation's securities trade. Simultaneous service on more than three non-affiliated public company audit committees requires a special determination by the board of directors and, if required, disclosure in the annual proxy statement. The board of directors shall determine, in its business judgment, whether the members of the audit committee satisfy all such requirements, regulations or laws.

The audit committee shall meet at least quarterly and as circumstances dictate. Regular meetings of the audit committee may be held with or without prior notice at such time and at such place as shall from time to time be determined by the chairperson of the audit committee, any of the corporation's

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

executive officers or the secretary of the corporation. Special meetings of the audit committee may be called by or at the request of any member of the audit committee, any of the corporation's executive officers, the secretary of the corporation or the independent auditor, in each case on at least twenty-four hours notice to each member.

A majority of the audit committee members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the audit committee's business. The audit committee shall act upon the vote of a majority of its members at a duly called meeting at which a quorum is present. Any action of the audit committee may be taken by a written instrument signed by all of the members of the audit committee. Meetings of the audit committee may be held at such place or places as the audit committee shall determine or as may be specified or fixed in the respective notice or waiver of notice for a meeting. Members of the audit committee may participate in audit committee proceedings by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the proceedings can hear each other, and such participation shall constitute presence in person at such proceedings.

The audit committee may invite to its meetings any director, any member of management of the corporation and any other persons it deems appropriate in order to carry out its responsibilities. The audit committee may also exclude from its meetings any persons it deems appropriate in order to carry out its responsibilities.

ARTICLE V. RESPONSIBILITIES

To fulfill its responsibilities, the audit committee shall perform the following activities.

Financial Statements and Disclosures

- o Review and discuss the corporation's annual audited financial statements and quarterly unaudited financial statements with management and the independent auditor, and the corporation's related disclosure under "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" prior to the annual and quarterly financial statements being filed in the corporation's Forms 10-K and Forms 10-Q, as applicable.
- o Review and discuss the corporation's internal control over financial reporting with management and the independent auditor, including the corporation's annual audited management report on internal control over financial reporting, and the corporation's related disclosure under "Disclosure Controls and Procedures."
- o Ascertain from officers signing certifications whether there existed any fraud or any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in the corporation's internal control over financial reporting.
- o Recommend to the board of directors, if appropriate, that the audited financial statements be included in the corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K to be filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.
- o Generally discuss (i.e., a discussion of the types of information to be disclosed and the type of presentation to be made) with management and the independent auditor, as appropriate, earnings press releases and financial information and earnings guidance provided to analysts and rating agencies. The audit committee need not discuss in advance each earnings release or each instance in which the corporation may

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

provide earnings guidance.

- o Prepare such reports of the audit committee for the corporation's public disclosure documents as applicable requirements, regulations or laws may require from time to time, which includes the audit committee report as required by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission to be included in the corporation's annual proxy statement.
- o Review significant accounting, reporting or auditing issues, including recent professional and regulatory pronouncements or proposed pronouncements, and understand their impact on the corporation's financial statements and internal control over financial reporting.

Independent Auditor

- o Appoint, compensate, retain and oversee (including the resolution of disagreements between management and the independent auditor regarding financial reporting or internal control over financial reporting) the work of any independent auditor engaged for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or performing other audit, review or attest services for the corporation.
- o Provide that the independent auditor report directly to the audit committee.
- o Annually review the qualifications, independence and performance of the independent auditor, including an evaluation of the lead partner
- o Receive such reports and communications from the independent auditor and take such actions as are required by auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America or applicable requirements, regulations or laws, including, to the extent so required, the following:
 - o prior to the annual audit, review with management and the independent auditor the scope and approach of the annual audits of the corporation's financial statements and internal control over financial reporting;
 - o review any changes in the independent auditor's scope during the audit, and after the annual audit, review with management and the independent auditor the independent auditor's reports on the results of the annual audit;
 - o review with the independent auditor any audit problems or difficulties and management's response;
 - o review with the independent auditor prior to filing the audit report with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission the matters required to be discussed by the Statement on Accounting Standards 61, as amended, supplemented or superseded; and
 - o at least annually, obtain and review a report by the independent auditor describing:
 - o the independent auditor's internal quality control procedures;
 - o any material issues raised by the most recent internal quality control review, or peer review, of the independent auditor or by any inquiry or investigation by governmental or professional authorities, within the preceding five years, with respect to one or more independent audits carried out by the independent auditor, and any steps taken to

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

deal with any such issues; and

- o all relationships between the independent auditor and the corporation in order to assess the auditor's independence, including the written disclosures required by Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1, Independence Discussions with Audit Committees, as amended, supplemented or superseded.
- o Establish preapproval policies and procedures for audit and permissible non-audit services provided by the independent auditor. The audit committee shall be responsible for the preapproval of all of the independent auditor's engagement fees and terms, as well as all permissible non-audit engagements of the independent auditor, as required by applicable requirements, regulations or laws. The audit committee may delegate to one or more of its members who are independent directors the authority to grant such preapprovals, provided the decisions of any such member to whom authority is delegated shall be presented to the full audit committee at its next scheduled meeting.
- o Set clear hiring policies for employees or former employees of the independent auditor.
- o Ensure that significant findings and recommendations made by the independent auditor are received and discussed on a timely basis with the audit committee and management.

Other Responsibilities

- o Discuss periodically with management the corporation's policies regarding risk assessment and risk management.
- o Meet separately, periodically, with management, the internal auditors (or other personnel responsible for the internal audit function) and the independent auditor.
- o Establish procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the corporation regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters, including procedures for the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.
- o Review periodically the reports and activities of the internal audit function and the coordination of the internal audit function with the independent auditor.
- o Conduct an annual evaluation of its own performance.
- o Report regularly to the board of directors on its oversight responsibilities set forth in Article I. The report may be made orally by the audit committee chairman or any other member of the committee designated by the committee chairman.
- o Maintain minutes or other records of meetings and activities of the audit committee.
- o Review and reassess this charter periodically. Report to the board of directors any suggested changes to this charter.
- o Meet periodically with officers of the corporation responsible for legal and regulatory compliance by the corporation. On at least an annual basis, review with the corporation's tax director any tax

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

matters that could have a significant impact on the corporation's financial statements.

ARTICLE VI. MISCELLANEOUS

The audit committee may from time to time perform any other activities consistent with this charter, the corporation's charter and bylaws and applicable requirements, regulations or laws, as the audit committee or the board of directors deems necessary or appropriate.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NL
INDUSTRIES, INC. ON JUNE 30, 2005.

/s/ Robert D. Graham
Robert D. Graham, Secretary

NL INDUSTRIES, INC.
Three Lincoln Centre
5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700
Dallas, Texas 75240-2697

Proxy - NL Industries, Inc.

PROXY SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NL INDUSTRIES, INC.
FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD MAY 24, 2006

The undersigned hereby appoints Steven L. Watson, Robert D. Graham and A. Andrew R. Louis, and each of them, proxy and attorney-in-fact for the undersigned, with full power of substitution, to vote on behalf of the undersigned at the 2006 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the "Meeting") of NL Industries, Inc., a New Jersey corporation ("NL"), to be held at NL's corporate offices at Three Lincoln Centre, 5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700, Dallas, Texas on Wednesday, May 24, 2006, at 10:00 a.m. (local time), and at any adjournment or postponement of the Meeting, all of the shares of common stock, par value \$0.125 per share, of NL standing in the name of the undersigned or that the undersigned may be entitled to vote on the proposals set forth, and in the manner directed, on this proxy card.

THIS PROXY MAY BE REVOKED AS SET FORTH IN THE PROXY STATEMENT THAT
ACCOMPANIED THIS PROXY CARD.

The proxies, if this card is properly executed, will vote in the manner directed on this card. If no direction is made, the proxies will vote "FOR" all nominees named on the reverse side of this card for election as directors and, to the extent allowed by applicable law, in the discretion of the proxies as to all other matters that may properly come before the Meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

PLEASE SIGN, DATE AND MAIL THIS PROXY CARD PROMPTLY IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.
SEE REVERSE SIDE.

Dear Shareholder:

NL Industries, Inc. encourages you to take advantage of new and convenient ways by which you can vote your shares. You can vote your shares electronically through the internet or by telephone. This eliminates the need to return this proxy card.

Edgar Filing: NL INDUSTRIES INC - Form DEF 14A

Your electronic or telephonic vote authorizes the agents named on this proxy card to vote in the same manner as if you marked, dated and returned this proxy card. If you vote your shares electronically or telephonically, do not mail back this proxy card.

Your vote is important. Thank you for voting.

Telephone and Internet Voting Instructions

You can vote by telephone OR internet! Available 24 hours a day 7 days a week! Instead of mailing this proxy card, you may choose on of the two voting methods outlined below to vote.

To vote using the Telephone (within the U.S. and Canada)

- o Call toll-free 1-800-652-VOTE (8683) in the United States or Canada any time on a touch tone telephone. There is NO CHARGE to you for the call
- o Follow the simple instructions provided by the recorded message.

To vote using the Internet

- o Go to the following web site
WWW.COMPUTERSHARE.COM/EXPRES
- o Enter the information
computer screen and f
instructions.

VALIDATION DETAILS ARE LOCATED ON THE FRONT OF THIS FORM IN
THE COLORED BAR.

If you vote by telephone or the internet, please DO NOT mail back this proxy card.

Proxies submitted by telephone or the internet must be received by 12:01 a.m., Central Time, on May 24, 2006.
THANK YOU FOR VOTING

NL Industries, Inc.

[Name]

[Address]

[] Mark this box with an X if you have made changes to your name or address details above.

Annual Meeting Proxy Card

A. Election of Directors

PLEASE REFER TO THE REVERSE SIDE FOR TELEPHONE AND INTERNET VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

1. The board of directors recommends a vote FOR the listed nominees.

	For	Withhold
01-Cecil H. Moore, Jr.	[]	[]
02- Glenn R. Simmons	[]	[]
03-Harold C. Simmons	[]	[]

04-Thomas P. Stafford	[]	[]
05-Sтивен L. Watson	[]	[]
06-Terry N. Worrell	[]	[]

2. In their discretion, the proxies are authorized to vote upon such other business as may properly come before the Meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

NOTE: Please sign exactly as the name that appears on this card. Joint owners should each sign. When signing other than in an individual capacity, please fully describe such capacity. Each signatory hereby revokes all proxies heretofore given to vote at said Meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

$$[\quad] [\quad] / [\quad] [\quad] / [\quad] [\quad] [\quad]$$