SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington,	D.C. 20549	
FORM	I 8-K	
CURRENT	REPORT	
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15 (d) of the		
Securities Exchange Act of 1934		
Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)		
NORTHERN TRUST CORPORATION		
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)		
Delaware		
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)		
0-5965	36-2723087	
(Commission File Number)	(IRS Employer Identification No.)	
Fifty South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois	60675	
(Address of principal executive offices)	(Zip Code)	

Registrant s telephone number, including area code (312) 630-6000

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits:

Exhibit 99 January 21, 2004 Press Release

Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition

The information contained in the registrant s January 21, 2004 press release, reporting on the registrant s earnings for the fourth quarter of 2003, a copy of which is filed as Exhibit 99 hereto, is incorporated herein by reference.

2

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

NORTHERN TRUST CORPORATION (Registrant)

Dated: January 21, 2004 By: /s/ Perry R. Pero

Perry R. Pero Vice Chairman and Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

		Page
Number	Description	Number
		
99	January 21, 2004 Press Release	5