

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 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): March 25, 2002

NEWELL RUBBERMAID INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)	1-9608 (Commission File Number)	36-3514169 (IRS Employer Identification No.)
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29 East Stephenson Street, Freeport, Illinois (Address of Principal Executive Offices)	61032-0943 (Zip Code)
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Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (815) 235-4171

Item 4. Changes in Registrant's Certifying Accountant.

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors of Newell Rubbermaid Inc. (the "Company") annually considers and recommends to the Board the selection of the Company's independent public accountants. As recommended by the Company's Audit Committee, the Company's Board of Directors on March 25, 2002 decided to no longer engage Arthur Andersen LLP ("Andersen") as the Company's independent public accountants and to engage Ernst & Young LLP to serve as the Company's independent accountants for 2002.

Andersen's reports on the Company's consolidated financial statements for each of the two most recent fiscal years did not contain an adverse opinion or disclaimer of opinion, nor were they qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope or accounting principles.

In connection with its audits for the Company's two most recent fiscal years and the subsequent interim period, there have been no disagreements between the Company and Andersen on any matter of accounting principles and practices, financial statement disclosure or auditing scope or procedure, which disagreements, if not resolved to Andersen's satisfaction, would have caused Andersen to make reference to the subject matter of the disagreement in connection with its report on the Company's consolidated financial statements for such years.

During the Company's two most recent fiscal years and through March 25, 2002, there have been no reportable events as defined in Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K.

The Company has requested Andersen to furnish it with a letter addressed to the Securities and Exchange Commission stating whether it agrees with the above statements made by the Company. A copy of the letter, dated April 1, 2002, is filed as Exhibit 16.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

During the Company's two most recent fiscal years and through March 25, 2002, the Company did not consult Ernst & Young LLP with respect to the application of accounting principles to a specified transaction, either completed or proposed, or the type of audit

opinion that might be rendered on the Company's consolidated financial statements, or any other matters or reportable events listed in Items 304(a)(2)(i) and (ii) of Regulation S-K.

Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits.

Exhibit Number -----	Description -----
16.1	Letter of Arthur Andersen LLP regarding change in certifying accountant.
99.1	Press Release dated April 1, 2002.

SIGNATURES

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

NEWELL RUBBERMAID INC.

Date: April 1, 2002

By: /s/ Andrea L. Horne

Andrea L. Horne
Vice President - Corporate
Development

EXHIBIT INDEX

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[Arthur Andersen LLP Letterhead]

Office of the Chief Accountant
Securities and Exchange Commission
450 Fifth Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20549

April 1, 2002

Dear Sir/Madam:

We have read the first, second, third and fourth paragraphs of Item 4 included in the Form 8-K dated March 25, 2002 of Newell Rubbermaid Inc. to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and are in agreement with the statements contained therein.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Arthur Andersen LLP
Arthur Andersen LLP

Copy to:
Ms. Andrea L. Horne
Vice President - Corporate Development
Newell Rubbermaid Inc.

PRESS RELEASE DATED APRIL 1, 2002

NEWELL RUBBERMAID NAMES
ERNST & YOUNG AS INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

FREEPORT, Ill., April 1, 2002 - Newell Rubbermaid Inc. (NYSE: NWL) today announced that its board of directors has appointed the accounting firm Ernst & Young LLP as the company's independent auditors, replacing Arthur Andersen LLP. Andersen has served as the company's auditors since 1984.

This appointment concludes a comprehensive review of the outside accounting services provided to the company and a rigorous process to select an independent auditor for 2002. The company said its decision to change accountants was made to ensure that Newell Rubbermaid's shareholders continue to have the utmost confidence in the integrity of the company's financial statements.

The company said that during Arthur Andersen's tenure as the company's auditor, it consistently met the company's strict standards of audit service and exhibited the highest levels of professionalism. The company added that an orderly and expeditious transition will be completed in time for Ernst & Young to review the company's first quarter earnings report to be released on May 1, 2002.

Newell Rubbermaid is filing a Form 8-K with the Securities and Exchange Commission detailing the change in independent public accountants.

Newell Rubbermaid Inc. is a global marketer of consumer products with 2001 sales of nearly \$7 billion and a powerful brand family including Sharpie{R}, Paper Mate{R}, Parker{R}, Waterman{R}, Rubbermaid{R}, Blue Ice{R}, Calphalon{R}, Little Tikes{R}, Graco{R}/Century{R}, Levolor{R}, Kirsch{R}, Shur-Line{R}, and Eldon{R}. The company is headquartered in Freeport, Illinois and employs 49,000 people worldwide. For more information, visit the company's web site at www.newellco.com.

Contact: Jesse Herron, Director - Investor Relations, 815-381-8150, fax, 815-381-8155, Ken Ross, VP Corp. Communications, or Victoria Gilbert, Mgr. Corp. Communications, 815-381-8151, fax, 815-381-8176, all of Newell Rubbermaid Inc.