

NORTHERN TRUST CORP  
Form 8-K  
October 20, 2004

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**UNITED STATES**  
**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)

**October 20, 2004**

**NORTHERN TRUST CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction  
  
of Incorporation)

**0-5965**  
(Commission  
  
File Number)

**36-2723087**  
(IRS Employer  
  
Identification No.)

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**50 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**60675**  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

**(312) 630-6000**

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- .. Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - .. Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition

The information contained in the registrant's October 20, 2004 press release, reporting on the registrant's earnings for the third quarter of 2004, a copy of which is filed as Exhibit 99 hereto, is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(c) Exhibits:

Exhibit 99 October 20, 2004 Press Release

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: October 20, 2004

By: /s/ Steven L. Fradkin

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Steven L. Fradkin  
Executive Vice President and

Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

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