

NEWELL RUBBERMAID INC
Form 11-K
June 28, 2002

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 11-K

ANNUAL REPORT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

(Mark One):

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 [NO FEE REQUIRED, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 7, 1996].

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 [NO FEE REQUIRED].

For the transition period from _____ to _____.

COMMISSION FILE NUMBER: 1-4188

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:

NEWELL RUBBERMAID 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office:

NEWELL RUBBERMAID INC.
29 EAST STEPHENSON STREET
NEWELL CENTER
FREEPORT, ILLINOIS 61032

REQUIRED INFORMATION

Financial Statements. The following financial statements and schedules are filed as part of this annual report and appear immediately after the signature page hereof:

1. Report of Independent Auditors
2. Report of Independent Public Accountants
3. Statements of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits
4. Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits
5. Notes to Financial Statements

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6. Supplemental Schedule

Exhibits. The following exhibits are filed as a part of this annual report:

Exhibit 23.1 Consent of Ernst & Young LLP

Exhibit 23.2 Notice Regarding Consent of Arthur Andersen LLP

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

NEWELL RUBBERMAID 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

Date: June 28, 2002

/s/ Tom Nohl

Tom Nohl, Member,
Plan Administrative Committee

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Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule

December 31, 2001 and 2000 and year ended December 31, 2001

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Report of Independent Auditors

To the Plan Administrator of the Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan:

We have audited the accompanying statement of net assets available for benefits of the Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan as of December 31, 2001, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year

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then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2001, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2001, is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements, but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. This supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan's management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Chicago, Illinois
June 14, 2002

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THIS IS A COPY OF THE AUDIT REPORT PREVIOUSLY ISSUED BY ARTHUR ANDERSEN LLP IN CONNECTION WITH THE PLAN'S FILING ON FORM 11-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000. THIS AUDIT REPORT HAS NOT BEEN REISSUED BY ARTHUR ANDERSEN IN CONNECTION WITH THIS FILING ON FORM 11-K. SEE EXHIBIT 23.2 FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.

ARTHUR ANDERSEN

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

To the Administrative Committee of the Newell
Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan:

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for plan benefits of the Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan (the "Plan," formerly the Newell Long-Term Savings and Investment Plan) as of December 31, 2000 and 1999, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for plan benefits for the year ended December 31, 2000. These financial statements and the supplemental schedule referred to below are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and schedule based on our audits.

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We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and supplemental schedule referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for plan benefits as of December 31, 2000 and 1999, and the changes in its net assets available for plan benefits for the year ended December 31, 2000, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

Our audits were made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental schedule, as listed in the accompanying table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/ Arthur Andersen LLP
 ARTHUR ANDERSEN LLP

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

June 22, 2001

Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	DECEMBER 31	
	2001	2000

ASSETS		
Investments	\$435,940,421	\$483,409,242
Interest in Newell Rubbermaid Master Trust	166,563,764	159,214,388
Employer contribution receivable	7,775,822	8,103,169

Net assets available for benefits	\$610,280,007	\$650,726,799
	=====	

See accompanying notes.

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Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

Year ended December 31, 2001

ADDITIONS

Investment income:

Interest and dividends	\$ 10,367,488
Net investment income from Newell Rubbermaid Master Trust	9,519,935

	19,887,423

Contributions:

Employee	43,813,099
Employer	21,675,797
Rollover	1,762,376

	67,251,272

Transfer of assets from other plans	242,315

Total additions	87,381,010
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DEDUCTIONS

Net realized and unrealized depreciation in fair value of investments	48,323,025
Benefits paid to participants	79,176,924
Administrative expenses	327,853

Total deductions	127,827,802

Net decrease	(40,446,792)
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Net assets available for benefits - Beginning of year	650,726,799

Net assets available for benefits - End of year	\$610,280,007
	=====

See accompanying notes.

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Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2001

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

The following description of the Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Summary Plan Description for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

GENERAL

Certain employees of Newell Rubbermaid, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) are

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eligible to participate in the Plan. Full-time employees, as defined, are eligible to participate in the Plan upon date of hire. Other employees are eligible to participate after completing one year of service, as defined. The Plan is administered by the Administrative Committee, which is appointed by the board of directors of the Company. UMB Bank, N.A. (UMB) became the trustee of the Plan on October 1, 2000. UMB has appointed American Century Services Corporation as the recordkeeper of the Plan and agent for UMB. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA).

CONTRIBUTIONS

Participants may elect to contribute up to 15% of pre-tax earnings, as defined by the Plan. The Company contributes a matching contribution for participants in an amount equal to 50% of the first 6% of compensation contributed by the participant. Participants are eligible for matching contributions after one year of service. Certain participants in the Plan are eligible for an annual profit sharing contribution. Generally, participants must be employed on the last day of the Plan year to receive an allocation of the profit sharing contribution. In 2001 and 2000, the Company made a profit sharing contribution to the Plan equal to 6% of eligible participants' eligible compensation.

PARTICIPANT ACCOUNTS

Separate accounts are maintained for each participant. Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions and Company matching contributions, and an allocation of (a) the Company's profit sharing contribution, if applicable, and (b) Plan earnings, and is charged with an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

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Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN (CONTINUED)

VESTING

Participants are immediately vested in their contributions, plus actual earnings thereon. Prior to October 1, 2000 vesting in Company matching contributions occurred ratably over a five year period. On October 1, 2000 all existing participants became fully vested in Company matching contributions. Employees enrolling in the Plan subsequent to October 1, 2000 are immediately vested in Company matching contributions. Profit sharing contributions vest over a seven year period. Forfeitures are used to pay Plan expenses and reduce Company matching or profit sharing contributions. Forfeitures available for future use were \$2,198,845 and \$2,113,264 at December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

PARTICIPANT LOANS

Participants may borrow from their accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. Loan terms range from one to ten years. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at a rate based on prevailing market conditions. Interest rates on loans outstanding at December 31, 2001 ranged from

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5.0% to 11.6%. Principal and interest is paid ratably through monthly payroll deductions.

PAYMENT OF BENEFITS

On termination of service, a participant may receive a lump-sum amount equal to the vested value of his or her account, or upon death, disability or retirement, elect to receive periodic installment payments.

INVESTMENT OPTIONS

All investments are participant-directed. Participants may direct contributions to the Plan to one or more of the Plan's investment funds. In addition to the investment funds offered by the Plan, participants may invest in a self-directed brokerage account. Participants may change their investment options or reallocate investment balances on a daily basis.

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Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

INVESTMENT VALUATION AND INCOME RECOGNITION

Except for investment contracts which are stated at contract value, the Plan's investments are stated at fair value, which equals the quoted market price on the last business day of the Plan year. Participant loans are valued at their outstanding balances, which approximate fair value.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

PAYMENT OF BENEFITS

Benefits are recorded when paid.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

All normal costs and expenses of administering the Plan and trust are paid by Plan participants. Any cost resulting from a participant obtaining a loan or requesting a distribution or in-service withdrawal may be borne by such participant or charged to the participant's individual account.

USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

3. INVESTMENTS

The fair market value of individual assets that represent 5% or more of the Plan's net assets as of December 31 are as follows:

	2001	2000

Newell Rubbermaid Inc. common stock	\$102,929,569	\$ 93,568,868
Janus Fund	78,490,468	103,148,792
American Century Equity Index Fund*	56,136,110	69,812,184
Franklin Templeton Small Cap Growth Fund	49,983,932	57,990,882
J.P. Morgan Institutional Diversified Fund	41,749,182	48,010,481
American Century Income and Growth Fund	31,038,953	33,716,062
American Century International Growth Fund	*	36,568,167

* Below 5% threshold

4. MASTER TRUST FINANCIAL INFORMATION

On October 1, 2000, the Rubbermaid Retirement Plan merged with the Plan and transferred plan assets of \$187,022,012 from the Rubbermaid Retirement Master Trust to the trustee of the Plan, American Century Services Corporation, and assets of \$132,211,951 remained in the Rubbermaid Master Trust and became assets of the Plan. The Plan transferred additional assets of \$40,544,433 to the Rubbermaid Master Trust. Effective October 1, 2000, the Rubbermaid Master Trust was renamed the Newell Rubbermaid Master Trust (the Master Trust). Fidelity Management Trust Company serves as the trustee for the assets of the Master Trust.

Each participating plan has an undivided interest in the net assets of the Master Trust. At December 31, 2001 and 2000, the Plan's interest in the net assets of the Master Trust was 63.5% and 59.8%, respectively. Investment income and expenses are allocated among participating plans based upon the value of the participant accounts attributed to each plan.

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Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

4. MASTER TRUST FINANCIAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

The Master Trust investments at December 31 are as follows:

	2001	2000

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Investments at fair value:		
Newell Rubbermaid Inc. common stock	\$ 919,239	\$ 2,041,585
Mutual funds	50,895,181	64,348,921
Loans to participants	1,065,192	1,117,273
Short-term investment fund	58,398	-
	-----	-----
	52,938,010	67,507,779
Investments at contract value:		
Stable Value Fund	209,519,597	198,828,621
	-----	-----
	\$262,457,607	\$266,336,400
	=====	=====

Investment income for the Master Trust for the year ended December 31, 2001 is as follows:

Interest and dividends	\$12,707,768
Net realized and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) in the fair value of investments determined by quote market price:	
Newell Rubbermaid Inc. common stock	340,012
Mutual funds	(10,190,149)

Total unrealized depreciation	(6,952,676)

	\$ 2,857,631
	=====

5. STABLE VALUE FUND

The Master Trust holds an investment in a Stable Value Fund which invests primarily in guaranteed investment contracts and synthetic guaranteed investment contracts. The fund also includes a short-term interest fund in the amount of \$6,990,464 at December 31, 2001. The fund is included in the financial statements at contract value as reported by the respective insurance companies.

The crediting interest rate for the fund was 5.75% and 6.20% as of December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively. The fund's blended rate of return for the year was 5.86% in 2001.

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Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

5. STABLE VALUE FUND (CONTINUED)

The crediting rates are reset periodically and are based on the market value of the underlying portfolio of assets backing these contracts. Inputs used to determine the crediting rate include each contract's portfolio market value, current yield-to-maturity, duration (i.e., weighted average life), and market value relative to contract value. All contracts have a guaranteed rate of 0% or higher.

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The contract values and fair values of investment contracts included in the Stable Value Fund as of December 31, 2001 and 2000 are as follows:

	CONTRACT VALUE		FAIR VAL
	2001	2000	2001
	-----		-----
Guaranteed Investment Contracts	\$ 57,375,436	\$ 85,483,538	\$ 59,135,791
Synthetic Guaranteed Investment Contracts	145,153,697	72,587,726	149,107,629
	-----		-----
	\$202,529,133	\$158,071,264	\$208,243,420
	=====		=====

Included in the fair value of synthetic guaranteed investment contracts as of December 31, 2001 and 2000 are \$17,759,647 and \$0, respectively, related to wrapper contracts which guarantee the contract value of the synthetic guaranteed investment contracts for participant-initiated withdrawal events.

6. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

All expenses related to the Trustee and recordkeeping in connection with the operation of the Plan are paid by the Plan. All other costs are paid out of Plan assets, except to the extent the Administrative Committee elects to have such expenses paid directly by the Company.

As of December 31, 2001 and 2000, the Plan owned 3,739,213 and 4,112,901 shares of Newell Rubbermaid Inc. common stock, respectively.

7. PLAN TERMINATION

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan, subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants will become 100% vested in their accounts.

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Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

8. TAX STATUS

The Plan has received a determination letter from the IRS dated February 22, 1996, stating that the Plan is qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) and, therefore, the related trust is exempt from taxation. Subsequent to the issuance of the determination letter, the Plan was amended and restated. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain its qualification. The plan administrator believes the Plan is being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believes the Plan, as amended, is qualified and the related trust is tax exempt.

9. PLAN MERGERS

During 2001, two plans covering five employees at the Company's Panodia and Koh-I-Nor division were merged into the Plan. The assets of these plans totaled

\$242,315.

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SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

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EIN 36-1953139
Plan No. 012

Newell Rubbermaid 401(k) Savings Plan

Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

December 31, 2001

IDENTITY OF ISSUE	CURRENT VALUE

PIMCO Total Return Fund	\$ 24,230,612
J.P. Morgan Diversified Fund*	41,749,183
American Century Income and Growth Fund*	31,038,953
American Century Equity Index Fund*	56,136,111
Janus Fund	78,490,469
Franklin Small Cap Growth A Fund	49,983,932
American Century International Growth Fund*	26,799,719
Newell Rubbermaid Common Stock*	102,929,569
Short-Term Investment Fund	44,272
American Century Self-Directed Brokerage Account	1,879,206
Participant Loans (interest rates of 5.0% to 11.6%)	22,658,395

	\$ 435,940,421
	=====

* Represents a party in interest to the Plan.

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INDEX TO EXHIBITS

(23) CONSENTS OF EXPERTS AND COUNSEL

23.1 Consent of Ernst & Young LLP

23.2 Notice regarding Consent of Arthur Andersen LLP