

VALLEY OF THE RIO DOCE CO

Form 6-K

December 16, 2003

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United States  
Securities and Exchange Commission

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 6-K**

Report of Foreign Private Issuer  
Pursuant To Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16  
of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of

December 2003

**Valley of the Rio Doce Company**

(Translation of Registrant's name into English)

Avenida Graca Aranha, No. 26  
20005-900 Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil  
(Address of principal executive office)

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.)

(Check One) Form 20-F  Form 40-F

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.)

(Check One) Yes  No

(If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b). 82- .)

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This current report on Form 6-K is hereby incorporated by reference into the Registration Statement on Form F-4 of Vale Overseas Limited, File No. 333-109610; the Registration Statement on Form F-4 of Companhia Vale do Rio Doce, File No. 333-109610-01; the Registration Statement on Form F-3 of Vale Overseas Limited, File No. 333-110867-01; and the Registration Statement on Form F-3 of Companhia Vale do Rio Doce, File No. 333-110867.

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PRESS RELEASE

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**Conclusion of Notes Exchange Offer**

Rio de Janeiro, December 16, 2003 Companhia Vale do Rio Doce (CVRD) informs that its wholly owned subsidiary Vale Overseas Limited (Vale Overseas) has exchanged, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Prospectus dated October 27, 2003 and the accompanying Letter of Transmittal (which together constitute the Exchange Offer), US\$282,154,000 principal amount of its 9.0% Guaranteed Notes Due 2013, registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933 (the New Notes) for an equal principal amount of its unregistered 9.0% Guaranteed Notes Due 2013 (the Old Notes). An aggregate of US\$17,846,000 principal amount of the Old Notes remains outstanding.

The CUSIP Number for the New Notes is 91911T AD 5, the ISIN Number is US91911TAD54 and the Common Code is 018232375. Application has been made to list the New Notes on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange.

**For further information, please contact:**

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This press release may contain statements that express management's expectations about future events or results rather than historical facts. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in forward-looking statements, and CVRD cannot give assurance that such statements will prove correct. These risks and uncertainties include factors: relating to the Brazilian economy and securities markets, which exhibit volatility and can be adversely affected by developments in other countries; relating to the iron ore business and its dependence on the global steel industry, which is cyclical in nature; and relating to the highly competitive industries in which CVRD operates. For additional information on factors that could cause CVRD's actual results to differ from expectations reflected in forward-looking statements, please see CVRD's reports filed with the Brazilian Comissão de Valores Mobiliários and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

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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.

COMPANHIA VALE DO RIO DOCE  
(Registrant)

Date: December 16, 2003

By: /s/ Fabio de Oliveira Barbosa

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Fabio de Oliveira Barbosa  
Chief Financial Officer