

VALLEY OF THE RIO DOCE CO

Form 6-K

October 01, 2004

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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

October 2004

**Valley of the Rio Doce Company**

(Translation of Registrant's name into English)

Avenida Graça 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 if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1))

(Check One) Yes  No

(Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7))

(Check One) Yes  No

(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 report on Form 6-K is hereby incorporated by reference into 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333-110867 and shall be deemed to be a part thereof from the date on which this report is furnished, to the extent not superseded by documents or reports subsequently filed or furnished.

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**CVRD signs Memorandum of Understanding with POSCO**

Rio de Janeiro, September 30, 2004 Companhia Vale do Rio Doce (CVRD), the largest producer of iron ore and pellets in the world, and Pohang Steel Corporation (POSCO), the largest south Korean steelmaker, signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the development of pre-feasibility studies for the construction of an integrated slab plant in São Luis, Maranhão state.

If implemented, the plant will produce initially four million tons of steel slabs per year.

This initiative reiterates CVRD's strategy of promoting iron ore consumption, exports, revenues and employment through minority participations in steel projects in Brazil.

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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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**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, thereunto duly authorized.

COMPANHIA VALE DO RIO DOCE  
(Registrant)

Date: October 1, 2004

By: /s/ Fabio de Oliveira Barbosa  
Fabio de Oliveira Barbosa  
Chief Financial Officer