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METALS USA INC Form SC 13G February 17, 2004

Securities and Exchange Commission Washington, D. C. 20549

Schedule 13G Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)

> Metals USA, Inc. Common Stock CUSIP Number 591324207

Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement: December 31, 2003

CUSIP No. 591324207

Name of reporting person: 1) Brandywine Asset Management, LLC Tax Identification No.: 51-0294965

- Check the appropriate box if a member of a group: 2)
 - n/a a)
 - b) n/a
- 3) SEC use only
- Place of organization: 4) Delaware

Number of shares beneficially owned by each reporting person with:

- 5) Sole voting power: - 0 -
- 1,175,400 6) Shared voting power:
- 7) Sole dispositive power: - 0 -
- 8) Shared dispositive power: 1,175,400
- 9) Aggregate amount beneficially owned by each reporting person: 1,175,400
- 10) Check if the aggregate amount in row (9) excludes certain shares
- 11) Percent of class represented by amount in row (9): 5.83%
- Type of reporting person: 12) IA, 00

Name of issuer: Item 1a)

Metals USA, Inc.

Item 1b) Address of issuer's principal executive offices: Three Riverway, Ste. 600

Houston, TX 77056

Item 2a) Name of person filing:

Brandywine Asset Management, LLC

Item 2b) Address of principal business office: Three Christina Centre, Ste. 1200

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201 N. Walnut Street Wilmington, DE 19801

Item 2c) Citizenship:

Delaware Limited Liability Company

- Item 2d) Title of class of securities:

 Common Stock
- Item 2e) CUSIP number: 591324207
- Item 3) If this statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b), check whether the person filing is a:
- (a) []Broker or dealer under Section 15 of the Act.
- (b)[]Bank as defined in Section 3(a) (6) of the Act.
- (c)[]Insurance Company as defined in Section 3(a) (6) of the Act.
- (d) []Investment Company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act.
- (e) [X] Investment Adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.
- (f) []Employee Benefit Plan, Pension Fund which is subject to ERISA of 1974 or Endowment Fund; see 240.13d-1 (b) (ii) (F).
- (g)[] Parent holding company, in accordance with 240.13d-1(b)(ii)(G).
- (h)[] Group, in accordance with 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(H).
- Item 4) Ownership:
- (a) Amount beneficially owned: 1,175,400
- (b) Percent of Class: 5.83%
- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
 - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: 0 -
 - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 1,175,400

 - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 1,175,400
- Item 5) Ownership of Five Percent or less of a class: $\ensuremath{\text{n/a}}$
- Item 6) Ownership of more than Five Percent on behalf of another
 person:

Various accounts managed by the filer have the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of shares of Metals USA, Inc. No account owns more than 5% of the shares outstanding.

n/a

- Item 8) Identification and classification of members of the group: $\ensuremath{\text{n/a}}$
- Item 9) Notice of dissolution of group:

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n/a

Item 10) Certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dala - 12 2004

Date - February 13, 2004

Brandywine Asset Management, LLC

Ву _____

Larry J. Kassman, Executive Vice President