RLI CORP Form SC 13G/A February 07, 2003

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### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

### **SCHEDULE 13G**

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. 17)

RLI Corp. (Name of Issuer) Common Stock \$1.00 Par Value (Title of Class of Securities) 749607 10 7 (CUSIP NUMBER) No Fee is being paid with this statement. 1. Name of Reporting Person and IRS Identification Number: RLI Corp. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust ("ESOP") #37-0889946 Check appropriate Box if Member (a) o of a Group: (b) o Not applicable 3. SEC use only Place of Organization: Peoria, Illinois

5. through 10.

As of December 31, 2002, 2,570,431 shares of RLI Corp. Common Stock were owned of record by the ESOP. The right to vote all such Common Stock as well as cash dividends are passed through to the ESOP participants. All beneficial interest in such Common Stock is vested in participants in the ESOP. RLI Corp. and the Trustee disclaim beneficial ownership in the Common Stock owned by

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the ESOP. All dispositions of the Common Stock owned by the ESOP are made by the Trustee at the direction of RLI Corp. to vested participants upon termination of employment.

11.	Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row 9:		
	10.4%		

12. Type of Reporting Person:

EP

#### Item 1

(a) Name of Issuer:

RLI Corp.

(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

9025 North Lindbergh Drive, Peoria, IL 61615

#### Item 2

(a) Name of Person Filing:

RLI Corp. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust ("ESOP")

(b) Address of Principal Business Office:

The ESOP is administered by RLI Corp. The Trustee of the ESOP is Joseph E. Dondanville ("Trustee"). Addresses:

RLI Corp. 9025 North Lindbergh Drive Peoria, IL 61615

(c) Citizenship:

Organized in Peoria, Illinois

(d) Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock \$1.00 Par Value

(e) CUSIP Number:

749607 10 7

#### Item 3 Eligibility to File Schedule 13G:

Employee Benefit Plan which is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

## Item 4 Ownership:

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As of December 31, 2002, 2,570,431 shares (10.4%) of RLI Corp. Common Stock were owned of record by the ESOP. The right to vote all such Common Stock as well as cash dividends are passed through to the ESOP participants. All beneficial interest in such Common Stock is vested in participants in the ESOP. RLI Corp. and the Trustee disclaim beneficial ownership in the Common Stock owned by the ESOP. All dispositions of the Common Stock owned by the ESOP are made by the Trustee at the direction of RLI Corp. to vested participants upon termination of employment.

employ	employment.			
Item 5	n 5 Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:			
No	Not applicable.			
Item 6	n 6 Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Per	son:		
No	Not applicable.			
Item 7 Compa	n 7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquiringany:	red the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding		
No	Not applicable.			
Item 8	n 8 Identification and Classification of Members of the Group:			
No	Not applicable.			
Item 9	n 9 Notice of Dissolution of Group:			
No	Not applicable.			
Item 10	n 10 Certification:			
business	undersigned certifies that to the best of his knowledge and belief, the sec ness and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of partities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any	of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such		
After re	er reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify correct.	that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete		
	RLI Corp	RLI Corp. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and Trust		
Date: 01	e: 01/24/03			
	By:	/s/ JOSEPH E. DONDANVILLE		
		Its Trustee		

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# QuickLinks

Item 1

Item 2

Item 3 Eligibility to File Schedule 13G

Item 4 Ownership

Item 5 Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class

Item 6 Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person

Item 7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company

Item 8 Identification and Classification of Members of the Group

Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of Group

Item 10 Certification