# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

## CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) February 14, 2002

BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY		
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)		
New Jersey	001-4802	22-0760120
	(Commission	(IRS Employer Iden- tification Number)
1 Becton Drive, Franklin Lak	es, New Jersey	07417-1880
(Address of principal executive offices)		(Zip Code)
Registrant's telephone number,	including area code	(201) 847-6800
N/A		
(Former name or former addresses if changed since last report.)		

## Item 5. OTHER EVENTS

On February 14, 2002 the Registrant confirmed in a press release the election of Edward J. Ludwig to the additional role of Chairman of the Board effective following the Annual Meeting of Shareholders that was held on February 13, 2002.

A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND EXHIBITS

Exhibit 99--Press release dated February 14, 2002.

#### 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 hereunto duly authorized.

BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY (Registrant)

By: /s/ Kathleen M. Gibson

Kathleen M. Gibson
Assistant Secretary

Date: February 14, 2002

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Contact:

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## EDWARD J. LUDWIG BECOMES BD CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Franklin Lakes, NJ (February 14, 2002) - BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company) (NYSE: BDX) announced that Edward J. Ludwig was named Chairman of the Board, effective immediately following the BD Annual Meeting of Shareholders that was held yesterday. Mr. Ludwig succeeds Clateo Castellini, who will continue to serve as a member of the Board.

As previously announced, in addition to serving as Chairman, Mr. Ludwig, 50, continues as BD's President and Chief Executive Officer. He has been President since June 1999 and Chief Executive Officer since January 2000. Mr. Ludwig joined the Company in 1979.

BD is a medical technology company that serves healthcare institutions, life science researchers, clinical laboratories and the general public. BD manufactures and sells a broad range of medical supplies, devices, laboratory equipment and diagnostic products. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2001, BD reported total revenues of \$3.8 billion.