

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) April 22, 2003  
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BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY

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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

<TABLE>

<S>	<C>	<C>
New Jersey	001-4802	22-0760120
(State or other juris- diction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(IRS Employer Iden- tification Number)

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1 Becton Drive, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417-1880  
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(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)  
</TABLE>

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (201) 847-6800  
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N/A

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(Former name or former addresses if changed since last report.)

Item 5. Other Events and Regulation FD Disclosure.

On April 22, 2003, the Registrant issued the press release that is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 7. Financial Statements. Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1 Press release dated April 22, 2003.

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/ Gary DeFazio

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Gary DeFazio  
Assistant Secretary

Date: April 22, 2003

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number

Description of Exhibit

- -----  
99.1

- -----  
Press release dated April 22, 2003

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Contact:

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EDWARD F. DeGRAAN ELECTED TO BD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Franklin Lakes, NJ (April 22, 2003) - BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company) (NYSE:BDX) has elected Edward F. DeGraan to its Board of Directors, effective May 20, 2003.

Mr. DeGraan, 59, is the President and Chief Operating Officer of Gillette Company, a position to which he was named in July 2000. Since joining Gillette in 1968, Mr. DeGraan has served in roles of increasing responsibility, including positions as North Atlantic Group Senior Vice President - Manufacturing and Technical Operations; Executive Vice President - Duracell North Atlantic Group; Executive Vice President - Global Business Management/Gillette Grooming Products and Duracell; and acting Chief Executive Officer.

"BD is fortunate to welcome an executive with Ed DeGraan's capabilities and experience to our Board," said Edward J. Ludwig, BD's Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer. "He brings many years of broad business experience at a leading manufacturing company. Ed's knowledge of global product development and management will be invaluable to BD."

Mr. DeGraan is a graduate of Suffolk University. He currently serves on Gillette's Board of Directors; previously, he sat on the board of Network Plus Corporation and was a director of the Boston Private Industry Council. Among his civic and professional affiliations, Mr. DeGraan serves as a trustee of the National Urban League.

BD is a medical technology company that serves healthcare institutions, life science researchers, clinical laboratories, industry 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, 2002, BD reported total revenues of \$4.03 billion.

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