

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) July 22, 2003

BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New Jersey

001-4802

22-0760120

(State or other juris-
diction of incorporation)

(Commission
File Number)

(IRS Employer Iden-
tification Number)

1 Becton Drive, Franklin Lakes, 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 and Regulation FD Disclosure.

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

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1 Press release dated July 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

Gary DeFazio
Assistant Secretary

Date: July 22, 2003

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number -----	Description of Exhibits -----
99.1	Press release dated July 22, 2003.

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1 Becton Drive
Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417
www.bd.com

News Release

[BECTON, DICKINSON LOGO]

Contact:
Charles Borgognoni, Corporate Communications - 201-847-6651
Patricia Spinella, Investor Relations - 201-847-5453

BD BOARD DECLARES DIVIDEND

Franklin Lakes, NJ (July 22, 2003) -- The Board of Directors of BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company) (NYSE:BDX) has declared a quarterly dividend of 10 cents per common share. The dividend will be payable on September 30, 2003 to holders of record on September 9, 2003. The current indicated annual dividend rate is 40 cents per share.

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 \$4.033 billion.