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BD ANNOUNCES RESULTS FOR THIRD FISCAL QUARTER

SAFETY AND BIOSCIENCES SALES ADD TO TOP LINE GROWTH

Franklin Lakes, NJ (July 20, 2000) - BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company) (NYSE:BDX) announced today diluted earnings per share of \$.43 for its third fiscal quarter which ended June 30, 2000. Earnings per share included a gain on the sale of an equity investment offset, in part, by charges related to the acquisition of in-process research and development and the write-down of an asset held for sale. The net favorable impact of these items was \$.03. Foreign currency translation reduced the quarter's earnings by an estimated \$.03 primarily as a result of the weak Euro versus a year ago. Excluding the gain and charges noted above, earnings per share for the third quarter were \$.40, or \$.43 on a foreign currency neutral basis ("FX-neutral"). Third quarter 1999 earnings per share were \$.12, or \$.38 after excluding the effects of special and other charges, as described in the Company's 1999 Annual Report on Form 10K.

Reported revenues for the quarter were \$914 million, an increase of 5 percent over last year, or 8 percent on an FX-neutral basis.

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Edward J. Ludwig, President and Chief Executive Officer, said: "Top line growth was led by revenues from our advanced protection (safety-engineered) devices and sales contributions from recent Biosciences segment acquisitions. Customer conversions to advanced protection devices continue to accelerate based on recently updated Federal OSHA regulations and legislation enacted in a growing number of key states. In Biosciences, the recent acquisition of Clontech Laboratories, Inc. is contributing significantly to the growth of our flow cytometry sales. We remain committed to building these franchises and delivering results consistent with our expectations."

By business segment, Medical Systems segment revenues grew 7 percent for the quarter on an FX-neutral basis to \$512 million, led by sales of advanced protection devices and pre-fillable syringes which continue to show strong growth. Preanalytical Solutions segment revenues grew 3 percent for the quarter on an FX-neutral basis to \$133 million. Shifts in inventory levels by a key distributor during the quarter resulted in lower reported Preanalytical Solutions sales. End-user demand for Preanalytical Solutions products remains strong, led by sales of advanced protection devices. Preanalytical Solution sales are expected to return, on an FX-neutral basis, to approximately 10 percent in the fourth quarter. Biosciences segment revenues of \$269 million grew 12 percent for the quarter on an FX-neutral basis, which reflects sales from the Clontech acquisition in late 1999.

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By geographic area, revenues inside the United States were \$481 million, 7 percent higher than a year earlier, while revenues outside the United States grew 8 percent, FX-neutral, to \$433 million. Strong growth was experienced in Latin America and Asia.

Nine-Month Results

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For the nine-month period ended June 30, 2000, revenues were \$2.698 billion, a 7 percent increase over \$2.516 billion a year ago. Excluding the unfavorable foreign currency translation that reduced revenues by an estimated \$53 million for the nine-month period, revenues grew 9 percent over the prior year. Medical Systems revenues for the nine-month period were \$1.464 billion, Preanalytical Solutions revenues totaled \$404 million, and Biosciences revenues were \$830 million.

\* \* \*

This press release may contain certain forward-looking statements (as defined under Federal securities laws) regarding the Company's performance, including future revenues, products and income, or events or developments that the Company expects to occur or anticipates occurring in the future. All such statements are based upon current expectations of the Company and involve a number of business risks and uncertainties. Actual results could vary materially

from anticipated results described in any forward-looking statement. Factors that could cause actual results to vary materially from any forward-looking statement include, but are not limited to, competitive factors, changes in regional, national or foreign economic conditions, changes in interest or foreign currency exchange rates, delays in product introductions, and changes in health care or other governmental regulation, as well as other factors discussed herein and in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

- Selected Financial Schedules follow -

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BECTON DICKINSON AND COMPANY  
CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENTS  
(Unaudited; Amounts in thousands, except per-share data)  
<TABLE>  
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	Three Months Ended June 30,		
	2000	1999	% Change
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>
REVENUES	\$ 914,140	\$ 873,002	4.7
Cost of products sold	453,838	461,323	(1.6)
Selling and administrative	248,773	231,924	7.3
Research and development	60,202	50,694	18.8
Special charges	-	75,553	NM
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS AND EXPENSES	762,813	819,494	(6.9)
OPERATING INCOME	151,327	53,508	NM
Interest expense, net	(17,564)	(16,877)	4.1
Other income (expense), net	27,745	(1,267)	NM
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	161,508	35,364	NM
Income tax provision	47,090	2,240	NM
NET INCOME	\$ 114,418	\$ 33,124	NM
EARNINGS PER SHARE			
Basic	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.13	NM
Diluted	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.12	NM
AVERAGE SHARES OUTSTANDING			
Basic	252,904	250,075	
Diluted	263,659	265,072	

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BECTON DICKINSON AND COMPANY  
CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENTS  
(Unaudited; Amounts in thousands, except per-share data)  
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	Nine Months Ended June 30,		
	2000	1999	% Change
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>
REVENUES	\$ 2,698,436	\$ 2,515,932	7.3
Cost of products sold	1,377,776	1,276,293	8.0
Selling and administrative	726,674	688,044	5.6
Research and development	171,120	167,255	2.3

Special charges	-	75,553	NM
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TOTAL OPERATING COSTS AND EXPENSES	2,275,570	2,207,145	3.1
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OPERATING INCOME	422,866	308,787	36.9
Interest expense, net	(60,320)	(53,506)	12.7
Other income, net	65,818	1,218	NM
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INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	428,364	256,499	67.0
Income tax provision	119,481	57,103	NM
-----			
NET INCOME	\$ 308,883	\$ 199,396	54.9
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EARNINGS PER SHARE			
Basic	\$ 1.22	\$ 0.79	54.4
Diluted	\$ 1.17	\$ 0.75	56.0
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AVERAGE SHARES OUTSTANDING

Basic	252,093	249,213
Diluted	263,192	265,335

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BECTON DICKINSON AND COMPANY  
SUPPLEMENTAL REVENUE INFORMATION  
(Unaudited; Amounts in thousands)

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	Three Months Ended June 30,		% Change
	2000	1999	
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>
-----			
MEDICAL SYSTEMS			
United States	\$ 249,407	\$ 237,646	4.9
International	262,775	257,489	2.1
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TOTAL	\$ 512,182	\$ 495,135	3.4
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BIOSCIENCES			
United States	\$ 158,932	\$ 136,292	16.6
International	110,408	108,970	1.3
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TOTAL	\$ 269,340	\$ 245,262	9.8
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PREANALYTICAL SOLUTIONS			
United States	\$ 73,062	\$ 75,678	(3.5)
International	59,556	56,927	4.6
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TOTAL	\$ 132,618	\$ 132,605	-
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TOTAL REVENUES			
United States	\$ 481,401	\$ 449,616	7.1
International	432,739	423,386	2.2
-----			
TOTAL	\$ 914,140	\$ 873,002	4.7
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	Nine Months ended June 30,		% Change
	2000	1999	
-----			
MEDICAL SYSTEMS			
United States	\$ 688,032	\$ 656,712	4.8
International	776,085	747,366	3.8
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TOTAL	\$ 1,464,117	\$ 1,404,078	4.3
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BIOSCIENCES					
United States	\$	481,028	\$	401,873	19.7
International		349,045		328,993	6.1
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TOTAL	\$	830,073	\$	730,866	13.6
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PREANALYTICAL SOLUTIONS					
United States	\$	220,539	\$	208,382	5.8
International		183,707		172,606	6.4
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TOTAL	\$	404,246	\$	380,988	6.1
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TOTAL REVENUES					
United States	\$	1,389,599	\$	1,266,967	9.7
International		1,308,837		1,248,965	4.8
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TOTAL	\$	2,698,436	\$	2,515,932	7.3
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BECTON DICKINSON AND COMPANY  
 SELECTED FINANCIAL INFORMATION  
 (Unaudited; Amounts in thousands)

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CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS	June 30, 2000	September 30, 1999
<S>	<C>	<C>
Cash & equivalents	\$ 76,940	\$ 59,932
Trade receivables, net	753,227	812,544
Inventories	706,565	642,533
Other	171,294	168,716
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TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	1,708,026	1,683,725
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Property, plant & equipment, net	1,538,884	1,431,149
Other	1,313,897	1,322,084
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TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 4,560,807	\$ 4,436,958
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Current Liabilities	\$ 1,440,418	\$ 1,329,322
Long-term Liabilities	1,165,024	1,338,948
Equity	1,955,365	1,768,688
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TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 4,560,807	\$ 4,436,958
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SELECTED CASH FLOW INFORMATION	Nine Months Ended June 30,	
	2000	1999
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Depreciation & amortization	\$ 214,755	\$ 191,250
Cash flow from operating activities	437,095	299,522
Capital expenditures	(271,296)	(212,098)
Acquisitions of businesses	(21,047)	(153,247)
Cash flow from investing activities	(285,822)	(471,786)
Cash flow from financing activities	(134,265)	155,997
Net Change in Cash & Equivalents	17,008	(16,267)
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