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Number

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Press release issued April 18, 2001.

BD [LOGO]

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BD ANNOUNCES RECORD REVENUES FOR FISCAL SECOND QUARTER

Company Reaffirms Outlook for Full Year

Franklin Lakes, NJ (April 18, 2001) - BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company) (NYSE:BDX) today announced revenues of \$961 million for the second quarter ended March 31, 2001, the largest quarterly revenues reported in the history of the Company.

Reported revenues for the quarter represented an increase of 4 percent over the same period a year ago. Revenues were affected by foreign currency translation, related primarily to the Euro and Japanese Yen, which reduced revenues by an estimated 3 percent.

Diluted earnings per share for the quarter were 44 cents, compared with 45 cents for the prior year's quarter. The prior year's reported earnings per share included a gain on the sale of an equity investment offset in part by the unfavorable impact of a voluntary product recall. Excluding these items, earnings per share for the prior year would have been 42 cents.

"We are pleased with our revenue growth, which was driven by U.S. sales of advanced protection devices and from strong sales in our Biosciences segment," said Edward J. Ludwig, president and chief executive officer. "The growth in sales of our advanced protection devices reflects our effectiveness in converting the U.S. market to the adoption of new devices engineered to provide added protection for healthcare workers."

Commenting on the Company's outlook, Mr. Ludwig noted, "For fiscal 2001, we continue to expect year-on-year net income growth to be double digit, with expected earnings per share of approximately 46 cents in the third quarter and \$1.63 for the full year."

Q2 Segment Results

As previously announced, beginning October 1, 2000, the Company revised its reporting segments. The microbiology product line (now known as diagnostic systems) was moved from the Biosciences segment and combined with the segment formerly known as Preanalytical Solutions to form the Clinical Laboratory Solutions segment. Summary revenue data reflecting the revised segments are as follows:

<TABLE>
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Revenues by Segment (\$in millions)	Second Fiscal Quarter		Six Months Ended March 31	
	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
<S>	2001	2000	2001	2000
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Medical Systems	\$ 507	\$ 489	\$ 945	\$ 952
Clinical Laboratory Solutions	298	294*	575	565*
Biosciences	156	142*	284	267*
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Total	\$ 961	\$ 925	\$1,804	\$1,784
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* Restated Clinical Laboratory Solutions revenues for the three months and six months ended March 31, 2000 include, respectively, \$139 million and \$272 million related to the former Preanalytical Solutions segment, and \$154 million and \$293 million related to the microbiology product group that previously had been

included in Biosciences revenues.

In the Medical Systems segment, worldwide revenues of \$507 million increased 4 percent for the quarter, or 7 percent at constant foreign exchange rates. In the Clinical Laboratory Solutions segment, worldwide revenues increased 2 percent to \$298 million, or 5 percent at constant foreign exchange rates. Both segments benefited from strong sales of advanced protection devices. U.S. sales of safety-engineered products were \$58 million for Medical Systems, representing an increase of 53 percent versus the prior year's quarter, and \$38 million for Clinical Laboratory Solutions, representing an increase of 44 percent versus the prior year's quarter.

Revenues for the Biosciences segment grew 10 percent to \$156 million. At constant foreign exchange rates, revenues increased 14 percent. All product groups contributed to this growth.

Q2 Geographic Results

On a geographic basis, second quarter revenues in the United States increased 6 percent to \$511 million. Revenues outside the United States of \$451 million increased 2 percent, or 9 percent at constant foreign exchange rates.

Six-Month Results

For the six-month period ended March 31, 2001, reported revenues were \$1.804 billion, a 1 percent increase over \$1.784 billion a year ago, or 5 percent at constant foreign exchange rates. Diluted earnings per share for the six-month period were 67 cents. For the same period in fiscal 2000, diluted earnings per share were 74 cents, which included the items in the second quarter referred to above.

BD is a medical technology company that manufactures and sells a broad range of supplies, devices and systems for use by healthcare professionals, medical research institutions, industry and the general public.

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, implied or projected 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; pricing and market share pressures; uncertainties of litigation; the Company's ability to achieve sales and earnings forecasts, which are based on sales volume and product mix assumptions, to achieve its cost savings objectives, and to achieve anticipated synergies and other cost savings in connection with acquisitions; changes in regional, national or foreign economic conditions; increases in energy costs; fluctuations in costs and availability of raw materials and in the Company's ability to maintain favorable supplier arrangements and relationships; 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 in this press release and in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We do not intend to update any forward-looking statements.

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BD's news releases can be found on its website at www.bd.com or through Business

Wire at www.businesswire.com. A conference call with analysts regarding this

news release will be broadcast live on BD's website at 8:30 a.m. EDT Thursday, April 19, 2001, and will be available for playback through April 25, 2001. The conference call will be recorded for playback at 1-800-391-9847.

BECTON DICKINSON AND COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENTS
(Unaudited; Amounts in thousands, except per-share data)

	Three Months Ended March 31,		
	2001	2000	% Change
REVENUES	\$ 961,179	\$ 925,132	3.9
Cost of products sold	487,615	473,987	2.9
Selling and administrative	241,912	244,063	(0.9)
Research and development	54,497	57,175	(4.7)
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS AND EXPENSES	784,024	775,225	1.1

OPERATING INCOME	177,155	149,907	18.2
Interest expense, net	(15,998)	(21,199)	(24.5)
Other (expense) income, net	(5,418)	36,399	NM

INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	155,739	165,107	(5.7)
Income tax provision	37,377	45,936	(18.6)

NET INCOME	\$ 118,362	\$ 119,171	(0.7)

EARNINGS PER SHARE			
Basic	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.47	(2.1)
Diluted	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.45	(2.2)

AVERAGE SHARES OUTSTANDING

Basic	257,021	252,055
Diluted	269,172	263,376

NM - Not Meaningful

BECTON DICKINSON AND COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENTS
(Unaudited; Amounts in thousands, except per-share data)

	Six Months Ended March 31,		% Change
	2001	2000	
REVENUES	\$ 1,804,436	\$ 1,784,296	1.1
Cost of products sold	936,562	923,938	1.4
Selling and administrative	477,204	477,901	(0.1)
Research and development	107,224	110,918	(3.3)

TOTAL OPERATING COSTS AND EXPENSES	1,520,990	1,512,757	0.5
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OPERATING INCOME	283,446	271,539	4.4
Interest expense, net	(34,562)	(42,756)	(19.2)
Other (expense) income, net	(13,379)	38,073	NM

INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	235,505	266,856	(11.7)
Income tax provision	56,521	72,391	(21.9)

NET INCOME	\$ 178,984	\$ 194,465	(8.0)
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EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic	\$ 0.69	\$ 0.77	(10.4)
Diluted	\$ 0.67	\$ 0.74	(9.5)

AVERAGE SHARES OUTSTANDING

Basic	255,729	251,690
Diluted	267,806	262,986

NM - Not Meaningful

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

	Three Months Ended March 31,		% Change
	2001	2000	

MEDICAL SYSTEMS

United States	\$ 250,942	\$ 232,003	8.2
International	255,896	257,326	(0.6)
TOTAL	\$ 506,838	\$ 489,329	3.6

CLINICAL LABORATORY SOLUTIONS

United States	\$ 175,725	\$ 172,427	1.9
International	122,634	121,506	0.9
TOTAL	\$ 298,359	\$ 293,933	1.5

BIOSCIENCES

United States	\$ 83,905	\$ 77,309	8.5
International	72,077	64,561	11.6
TOTAL	\$ 155,982	\$ 141,870	9.9

TOTAL REVENUES

United States	\$ 510,572	\$ 481,739	6.0
International	450,607	443,393	1.6
TOTAL	\$ 961,179	\$ 925,132	3.9

Six Months Ended March 31,
2001 2000 % Change

MEDICAL SYSTEMS

United States	\$ 452,961	\$ 438,625	3.3
International	492,311	513,310	(4.1)
TOTAL	\$ 945,272	\$ 951,935	(0.7)

CLINICAL LABORATORY SOLUTIONS

United States	\$ 335,404	\$ 320,950	4.5
International	239,908	244,082	(1.7)
TOTAL	\$ 575,312	\$ 565,032	1.8

BIOSCIENCES

United States	\$ 153,491	\$ 148,623	3.3
International	130,361	118,706	9.8
TOTAL	\$ 283,852	\$ 267,329	6.2

TOTAL REVENUES

United States	\$ 941,856	\$ 908,198	3.7
International	862,580	876,098	(1.5)
TOTAL	\$ 1,804,436	\$ 1,784,296	1.1

BECTON DICKINSON AND COMPANY
REVENUES BY BUSINESS SEGMENTS AND MAJOR PRODUCT GROUPS
THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31,
(Unaudited; Amounts in thousands)

United States

2001	2000	% Change
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MEDICAL SYSTEMS

Core Medical	\$ 152,165	\$ 138,673	9.7
Consumer Health Care	79,135	75,624	4.6
Pharmaceutical Systems	12,422	11,190	11.0

Ophthalmic Systems	7,220	6,516	10.8
TOTAL	\$ 250,942	\$ 232,003	8.2

CLINICAL LABORATORY SOLUTIONS

Preanalytical Solutions	\$ 86,489	\$ 78,406	10.3
Diagnostic Systems	89,236	94,021	(5.1)
TOTAL	\$ 175,725	\$ 172,427	1.9

BIOSCIENCES

Immunocytometry & Reagents	\$ 60,332	\$ 57,100	5.7
Discovery Labware	23,573	20,209	16.6
TOTAL	\$ 83,905	\$ 77,309	8.5

TOTAL UNITED STATES	\$ 510,572	\$ 481,739	6.0
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International

	2001	2000	% Change
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MEDICAL SYSTEMS

Core Medical	\$ 144,842	\$ 150,591	(3.8)
Consumer Health Care	48,277	50,524	(4.4)
Pharmaceutical Systems	56,601	50,700	11.6
Ophthalmic Systems	6,176	5,511	12.1
TOTAL	\$ 255,896	\$ 257,326	(0.6)

CLINICAL LABORATORY SOLUTIONS

Preanalytical Solutions	\$ 62,657	\$ 61,080	2.6
Diagnostic Systems	59,977	60,426	(0.7)
TOTAL	\$ 122,634	\$ 121,506	0.9

BIOSCIENCES

Immunocytometry & Reagents	\$ 56,045	\$ 48,723	15.0
Discovery Labware	16,032	15,838	1.2
TOTAL	\$ 72,077	\$ 64,561	11.6

TOTAL INTERNATIONAL	\$ 450,607	\$ 443,393	1.6
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Total

	2001	2000	% Change
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MEDICAL SYSTEMS

Core Medical	\$ 297,007	\$ 289,264	2.7
Consumer Health Care	127,412	126,148	1.0
Pharmaceutical Systems	69,023	61,890	11.5
Ophthalmic Systems	13,396	12,027	11.4
TOTAL	\$ 506,838	\$ 489,329	3.6

CLINICAL LABORATORY SOLUTIONS

Preanalytical Solutions	\$ 149,146	\$ 139,486	6.9
Diagnostic Systems	149,213	154,447	(3.4)
TOTAL	\$ 298,359	\$ 293,933	1.5

BIOSCIENCES

Immunocytometry & Reagents	\$ 116,377	\$ 105,823	10.0
Discovery Labware	39,605	36,047	9.9

TOTAL	\$ 155,982	\$ 141,870	9.9
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 961,179	\$ 925,132	3.9

FX Neutral % Growth

	International	Total
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MEDICAL SYSTEMS

Core Medical	1.8	5.6
Consumer Health Care	1.8	3.5
Pharmaceutical Systems	21.3	19.4
Ophthalmic Systems	20.8	15.4
TOTAL	6.0	7.0

CLINICAL LABORATORY SOLUTIONS

Preanalytical Solutions	10.2	10.3
Diagnostic Systems	5.9	(0.8)
TOTAL	8.1	4.5

BIOSCIENCES

Immunocytometry & Reagents	23.4	13.8
Discovery Labware	8.5	13.1
TOTAL	19.7	13.6

TOTAL	8.6	7.2
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BECTON DICKINSON AND COMPANY
REVENUES BY BUSINESS SEGMENTS AND MAJOR PRODUCT GROUPS
SIX MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31,
(Unaudited; Amounts in thousands)

United States

	2001	2000	% Change
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MEDICAL SYSTEMS

Core Medical	\$ 292,205	\$ 273,582	6.8
Consumer Health Care	123,636	131,257	(5.8)
Pharmaceutical Systems	22,692	19,808	14.6
Ophthalmic Systems	14,428	13,978	3.2
TOTAL	\$ 452,961	\$ 438,625	3.3

CLINICAL LABORATORY SOLUTIONS

Preanalytical Solutions	\$ 163,069	\$ 147,477	10.6
Diagnostic Systems	172,335	173,473	(0.7)
TOTAL	\$ 335,404	\$ 320,950	4.5

BIOSCIENCES

Immunocytometry & Reagents	\$ 111,826	\$ 110,428	1.3
Discovery Labware	41,665	38,195	9.1
TOTAL	\$ 153,491	\$ 148,623	3.3

TOTAL UNITED STATES	\$ 941,856	\$ 908,198	3.7
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International

	2001	2000	% Change
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MEDICAL SYSTEMS

Core Medical	\$ 281,678	\$ 301,848	(6.7)
Consumer Health Care	96,183	99,411	(3.2)
Pharmaceutical Systems	103,322	101,373	1.9
Ophthalmic Systems	11,128	10,678	4.2
TOTAL	\$ 492,311	\$ 513,310	(4.1)

CLINICAL LABORATORY SOLUTIONS

Preanalytical Solutions	\$ 119,701	\$ 124,151	(3.6)
Diagnostic Systems	120,207	119,931	0.2
TOTAL	\$ 239,908	\$ 244,082	(1.7)

BIOSCIENCES

Immunocytometry & Reagents	\$ 99,884	\$ 87,907	13.6
Discovery Labware	30,477	30,799	(1.0)
TOTAL	\$ 130,361	\$ 118,706	9.8

TOTAL INTERNATIONAL	\$ 862,580	\$ 876,098	(1.5)
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Total

	2001	2000	% Change
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MEDICAL SYSTEMS

Core Medical	\$ 573,883	\$ 575,430	(0.3)
Consumer Health Care	219,819	230,668	(4.7)
Pharmaceutical Systems	126,014	121,181	4.0
Ophthalmic Systems	25,556	24,656	3.7
TOTAL	\$ 945,272	\$ 951,935	(0.7)

CLINICAL LABORATORY SOLUTIONS

Preanalytical Solutions	\$ 282,770	\$ 271,628	4.1
Diagnostic Systems	292,542	293,404	(0.3)
TOTAL	\$ 575,312	\$ 565,032	1.8

BIOSCIENCES

Immunocytometry & Reagents	\$ 211,710	\$ 198,335	6.7
Discovery Labware	72,142	68,994	4.6
TOTAL	\$ 283,852	\$ 267,329	6.2

TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 1,804,436	\$ 1,784,296	1.1
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FX Neutral % Growth

	International	Total
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MEDICAL SYSTEMS

Core Medical	(0.1)	3.2
Consumer Health Care	5.2	(1.0)
Pharmaceutical Systems	15.2	15.1
Ophthalmic Systems	14.5	8.1
TOTAL	4.3	3.8

CLINICAL LABORATORY SOLUTIONS

Preanalytical Solutions	5.4	8.2
Diagnostic Systems	8.1	2.9

TOTAL	6.7	5.5

BIOSCIENCES		

Immunocytometry & Reagents	25.5	12.0
Discovery Labware	7.2	8.3

TOTAL	20.7	11.0

TOTAL	7.2	5.4
