





Becton Dickinson Announces

Election of Willard J. Overlock, Jr.

Franklin Lakes, NJ - May 25, 1999 - Becton Dickinson and Company announced today the election of Willard J. ("Mike") Overlock, Jr. to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Overlock, 53, was elected a partner at Goldman, Sachs & Co. in 1982, was the head of the firm's Mergers and Acquisition Department from 1985-1996, as well as co-head of its Investment Banking Division, from 1990 to 1996. Mr. Overlock served as a member of the management committee at Goldman, Sachs from 1990 to 1995 and became a Limited Partner of the firm in 1996. Mr Overlock has been an advisor to numerous corporations and is a frequent lecturer on acquisitions and takeovers.

Mr Overlock received his B.A. in economics from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in 1968 and his M.B.A. from the Columbia Business School in 1973. Mr. Overlock currently is a director of Select Reinsurance Ltd. and SummerWinds Garden Centers, Inc. and serves on the board of the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill College of Arts and Sciences and the Board of Overseers of the Columbia Graduate School of Business. Mr. Overlock also is a trustee of the Kent School. From 1992 to 1998, Mr. Overlock was a member of the Board of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International and from 1995 to 1998 served as its Chairman.

"Becton Dickinson is pleased to welcome Mr. Overlock as a director. He is highly respected in his industry for his business acumen and civic leadership, and brings to our company a valuable perspective on the challenges we face in managing the growth of our businesses," said Clateo Castellini, Chairman of the Board, President and CEO.

Becton Dickinson manufactures and sells a broad range of medical devices and diagnostic systems for use by health professionals, medical research institutions and the general public. For its most recent fiscal year, the company reported revenues of \$3.1 billion.

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BECTON DICKINSON NAMES LUDWIG PRESIDENT

Franklin Lakes, NJ (May 25, 1999) -- The Board of Directors of Becton, Dickinson and Company announced today that it has named Edward J. Ludwig President. Mr. Ludwig succeeds Clateo Castellini, who will continue in the role of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer until year-end, at which time Mr. Ludwig also will be appointed to the position of Chief Executive Officer.

Mr. Ludwig joined the Company in 1979. After five years' experience in the Company's medical segment, in 1987 Mr. Ludwig assumed responsibility for corporate planning and development. From 1989 to 1994, Mr. Ludwig was President of Becton Dickinson Diagnostics in Baltimore, Maryland. During the last five years, Mr. Ludwig has held positions of increasing responsibility at corporate headquarters. He served as Senior Vice President - Finance and Chief Financial Officer from 1995 to 1998 and more recently, in July, 1998, was appointed Executive Vice President of the Company.

Clateo Castellini said, "Ed has demonstrated the vision, values and energy necessary to lead Becton Dickinson into the 21st century. He is fully committed to the continuing transformation of Becton Dickinson into a more responsive, adaptive and fast-

moving company dedicated to helping all people live healthy lives and I am convinced he will continue to strengthen our profitability and sales growth by increasing the Company's relevance to patients and to health care systems around the world."

Richard W. Hanselman director and chairman of the Committee on Directors at Becton, Dickinson and Company said, "Becton Dickinson has enjoyed tremendous success under the leadership of Clateo Castellini and naming Ed Ludwig today as President and CEO-designate represents another critical achievement for the Company. Ed has the experience, personal attributes and dedication necessary to guide Becton Dickinson to achieve its aspirations and the Company is very fortunate that it will benefit from Clateo's continuing presence as Chairman of the Company, which will provide continuity for the initiatives undertaken and ensure a successful and seamless leadership transition."

Becton Dickinson manufactures and sells a broad range of medical supplies and devices and diagnostic systems for use by health professionals, medical research institutions, industry and the general public. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 1998, Becton Dickinson reported total revenues of \$3.1 billion and net income of \$236 million.

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