

Exhibit
Number

Description of Exhibit

99

Press Release dated November 4, 1999.

Refer to: Ronald Jasper
Director, Investor Relations
(201) 847-7160

BECTON DICKINSON ANNOUNCES
RECORD REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR

Franklin Lakes, NJ (November 4, 1999) - Becton, Dickinson and Company (NYSE:BDX) announced today results for its fiscal fourth quarter and full year, which ended September 30, 1999.

Full Year Results

Revenues for the year were a record \$3.418 billion (three billion, four hundred eighteen million dollars), a ten percent increase from last year's \$3.117 billion (three billion, one hundred seventeen million dollars). Recent acquisitions contributed to revenue growth. Diluted earnings per share for the year, excluding previously announced restructuring and other charges and in-process research and development charges associated with acquisitions, were \$1.49. Reported earnings per share were \$1.04 for fiscal 1999, compared with \$.90 in fiscal 1998, which also included certain charges.

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By geographic area, revenues in the United States were \$1.748 billion (one billion, seven hundred forty-eight million dollars), compared with \$1.690 billion (one billion, six hundred ninety million dollars), an increase of three percent. Revenues outside the United States were \$1.671 billion (one billion, six hundred seventy-one million dollars), compared with \$1.427 billion (one billion, four hundred twenty-seven million dollars) last year, a seventeen percent increase, partly due to recent acquisitions. Foreign currency translation increased non-U.S. revenues by less than one percent.

Beginning September 30, 1999, the company reports in three operating segments: medical systems, biosciences, and preanalytical solutions. Medical systems revenues for the year were \$1.924 billion (one billion, nine hundred twenty-four million dollars), revenues from biosciences were \$986 million, and revenues from preanalytical solutions were \$509 million.

Fourth Quarter Results

Revenues for the fourth quarter were \$902 million, an increase of seven percent. Diluted earnings per share were \$.42, excluding the impact of the in-process research and development charges associated with the recent acquisition of Clontech Laboratories, Inc. Reported earnings per share were \$.29.

By business segment, medical systems revenues for the quarter were \$521 million, biosciences revenues were \$255 million, and preanalytical solutions revenues were \$126 million.

On a geographic basis, fourth quarter revenues in the United States were \$481 million compared with \$458 million for the last year ago, while revenues outside the United States were \$422 million compared with \$385 million in the prior fiscal year's fourth quarter.

- Selected Financial Reviews follow -

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BECTON DICKINSON AND COMPANY
SELECTED FINANCIAL SCHEDULES
Amounts in thousands, except per-share data

INCOME STATEMENTS	Three Months Ended September 30,		
	1999	1998	% Change
REVENUES	\$ 902,480	\$843,239	7.0
Cost of products sold	435,373	403,142	8.0
Selling and administrative	243,885	241,989	0.8
Research and development	86,761	48,615	78.5
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS AND EXPENSES	766,019	693,746	10.4
OPERATING INCOME	136,461	149,493	(8.7)
Interest expense, net	(18,546)	(17,146)	8.2
Other expense, net	(1,759)	(1,114)	57.9

INCOME BEFORE			
INCOME TAXES	116,156	131,233	(11.5)
Income tax provision	39,833	41,336	(3.6)

NET INCOME	\$ 76,323	\$ 89,897	(15.1)

EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.36	(16.7)
Diluted	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.34	(14.7)

AVERAGE SHARES OUTSTANDING

Basic	250,732	247,614
Diluted	262,291	265,106

SUMMARY OF REVENUES

Three Months Ended September 30,

	1999	1998	% Change
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BY OPERATING SEGMENT

Medical Systems	\$ 521,474	\$484,351	7.7
Biosciences	254,955	239,165	6.6
Preanalytical Solutions	126,051	119,723	5.3

TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 902,480	\$843,239	7.0
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BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

United States	\$ 480,818	\$458,117	5.0
International	421,662	385,122	9.5

TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 902,480	\$843,239	7.0
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BECTON DICKINSON AND COMPANY
SELECTED FINANCIAL SCHEDULES

Amounts in thousands, except per-share data

INCOME STATEMENTS

Twelve Months Ended September 30,

	1999	1998	% Change
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REVENUES	\$3,418,412	\$3,116,873	9.7
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Cost of products sold	1,711,666	1,541,032	11.1
Selling and administrative	931,929	861,564	8.2
Research and development	254,016	217,900	16.6
Special charges	75,553	90,945	NM

TOTAL OPERATING COSTS AND EXPENSES	2,973,164	2,711,441	9.7
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OPERATING INCOME	445,248	405,432	9.8
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Interest expense, net	(72,052)	(56,340)	27.9
Other expense, net	(541)	(8,226)	(93.4)

INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	372,655	340,866	9.3
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Income tax provision	96,936	104,298	(7.1)
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NET INCOME	\$ 275,719	\$ 236,568	16.5
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EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic	\$	1.09	\$	0.95	14.7
Diluted	\$	1.04	\$	0.90	15.6

AVERAGE SHARES OUTSTANDING

Basic	249,595	245,700
Diluted	264,580	262,128

NM - Not Meaningful

SUMMARY OF REVENUES	Twelve Months Ended September 30,		
	1999	1998	% Change

BY OPERATING SEGMENT

Medical Systems	\$1,923,865	\$1,714,952	12.2
Biosciences	985,821	924,157	6.7
Preanalytical Solutions	508,726	477,764	6.5

TOTAL REVENUES	\$3,418,412	\$3,116,873	9.7
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BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

United States	\$1,747,785	\$1,690,282	3.4
International	1,670,627	1,426,591	17.1

TOTAL REVENUES	\$3,418,412	\$3,116,873	9.7
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