

**UNITED STATES
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) December 1, 2012

BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

New Jersey
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

001-4802
(Commission File Number)

22-0760120
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

1 Becton Drive, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

07417-1880
(Zip Code)

(201) 847-6800
(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

N/A
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K Filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 8.01**Other Events.**

On December 1, 2012, Becton, Dickinson and Company (“BD”) signed a definitive settlement agreement with Gen-Probe in the action before the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California. Under the settlement, BD is granted a license to make, use and sell products accused of infringing Gen-Probe patents in the action. The payments that BD will make to Gen-Probe under the settlement, which include an upfront payment and ongoing royalties, are not material to BD, and the parties have requested that the Court dismiss the action.

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
Vice President and Corporate Secretary

Date: December 3, 2012