

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL	
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * <u>LUDWIG EDWARD J</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>C/O BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY</u> <u>1 BECTON DRIVE</u> (Street) <u>FRANKLIN LAKES NJ 07417</u> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>BECTON DICKINSON & CO [BDX]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>Chairman, President and CEO</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>05/25/2004</u>	
	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	05/25/2004		M		34,512	A	\$20.0325	115,593	D	
Common Stock	05/25/2004		M		4,030	A	\$24.8125	119,623	D	
Common Stock	05/25/2004		F		2,053	D	\$48.69	117,570	D	
Common Stock	05/25/2004		S		32,512	D	\$48.75	85,058 ⁽¹⁾	D	
Common Stock								19,168	I	SIP Trust ⁽²⁾

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$20.0325	05/25/2004		M			34,512	01/22/1996	01/22/2006	Common Stock	34,512	\$0	160,000	D	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$24.8125	05/25/2004		M			4,030	01/27/1999 ⁽³⁾	01/27/2007	Common Stock	4,030	\$0	203,186	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- Includes shares acquired through dividend reinvestment since March 9, 2004.
- Represents shares of common stock held under the Becton, Dickinson and Company Savings Incentive Plan (the "SIP"). The information presented for the SIP is as of April 30, 2004. Mr. Ludwig also has an interest in 581.6 shares of Series B Convertible Preferred Stock under the SIP, which are convertible into 3,722 shares of common stock.
- The option became 50% exercisable on January 27, 1999 and fully exercisable on January 27, 2000.

Remarks:

Patricia Walesiewicz, by power of attorney for Edward J. Ludwig 05/26/2004

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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