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BECTON DICKINSON & CO  
Form 8-K  
July 22, 2004

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) July 22, 2004  
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BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY

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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New Jersey

001-4802

22-0760120

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(State or other juris-  
diction of incorporation)

(Commission  
File Number)

(IRS Employer Iden-  
tification Number)

1 Becton Drive, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey

07417-1880

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(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

(201) 847-6800  
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N/A

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(Former name or former addresses if changed since last report.)

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

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(c) Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1 - Press release dated July 22, 2004  
announcing financial results for the third fiscal quarter  
ended June 30, 2004, which is furnished pursuant  
to Item 12.

Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On July 22, 2004, the Company issued a press release announcing  
its financial results for the third fiscal quarter ended June  
30, 2004. A copy of the press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1  
to this Current Report and is incorporated herein by reference.

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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/ Dean J. Paranicas

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Dean J. Paranicas  
Vice President,  
Corporate Secretary and  
Public Policy

Date: July 22, 2004

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INDEX TO EXHIBITS

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Exhibit  
Number

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Description of Exhibits

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99.1

Press release issued July 22, 2004

STATEMENT OF DIFFERENCES

The trademark symbol shall be expressed as.....'TM'