AETNA INC /PA/ Form 4 December 06, 2004

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB APPROVAL

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Section 16.

Form 4 or

Form 5

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

obligations may continue.

See Instruction

Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * LUDWIG EDWARD J			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol AETNA INC /PA/ [AET]			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
(Last)	(Last) (First)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction			(Check all applicable)			
			(Month/D	ay/Year)		_X_ Director	109	% Owner	
BECTON, DICKINSON AND			1 / /// 1/ /////				ve titleOth	er (specify	
COMPANY	, 1 BECTON	I DRIVE				below)	below)		
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person				
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)						
FRANKLIN	N LAKES, N.	07417				Form filed by Person	More than One R	eporting	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table	e I - Non-D	erivative Securities A	cquired, Disposed	of, or Beneficia	lly Owned	
1.Title of	2. Transaction	n Date 2A. De	eemed	3.	4. Securities	5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of	
Security	(Month/Day/	Year) Execut	tion Date, if	Transacti	onAcquired (A) or	Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect	

(Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial any (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned Indirect (I) Ownership Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Common 2,000 D Stock

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

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SEC 1474

(9-02)

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

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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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative Securities (Month/Day/Yea Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		ate	7. Title and a Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securities
				Code V	(A) (D	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
PHANTOM STOCK UNITS (1)	<u>(2)</u>	12/03/2004		A	25.267	<u>(1)</u>	<u>(1)</u>	Common Stock	25.267

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
. J	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
LUDWIG EDWARD J BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY 1 BECTON DRIVE FRANKLIN LAKES, NJ 07417	X				

Signatures

EDWARD J. LUDWIG by Paige L. Falasco, Attorney-in
-Fact
12/06/2004

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).
 - UNITS ACCRUED UNDER THE AETNA INC. NON-EMPLOYEE DIRECTOR COMPENSATION PLAN (THE "PLAN")
- (1) PURSUANT TO DEFERRAL OF DIRECTOR FEES. SUBJECT TO TERMS OF PLAN, UNITS MAY BE SETTLED IN AETNA COMMON STOCK, IN CASH OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH UPON REPORTING PERSON'S RETIREMENT.
- (2) UNITS CONVERT TO COMMON STOCK ON A ONE FOR ONE BASIS.
- (3) INCLUDES .924 UNITS ACCRUED UNDER THE PLAN PURSUANT TO REINVESTMENT OF DIVIDEND EQUIVALENTS.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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