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BIO RAD LABORATORIES INC
Form 8-K
July 10, 2002

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 8, 2002

BIO-RAD LABORATORIES, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| A Delaware Corporation | 1-7928 | 94-1381833 |
| (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) | (Commission File Number) | (IRS Employer Identification No.) |

| | |
|---|------------|
| 1000 Alfred Nobel Drive, Hercules, California | 94547 |
| (Address of Principal Executive Offices) | (Zip Code) |

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (510)724-7000

No Change

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

ITEM 4. CHANGES TO REGISTRANT'S CERTIFYING ACCOUNTANTS.

On July 8, 2002, Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc. ("Bio-Rad") dismissed Arthur Andersen LLP ("Andersen") as its independent public accountants, and appointed Deloitte & Touche LLP ("Deloitte & Touche") as its new independent public accountants. The decision to change independent public accountants was recommended by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of Bio-Rad.

The report of Andersen for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000 contained no adverse opinions, disclaimer of opinion or qualifications or modification as to uncertainty, audit scope or accounting principles. During the fiscal years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, and the interim period from January 1, 2002 through July 8, 2002 there were no disagreements between Bio-Rad and Andersen on any accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure or auditing scope or procedure, which, if not resolved to the

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satisfaction of Andersen would have caused it to make reference to the subject matter of the disagreement in connection with its report.

No event described in paragraph (a)(1)(v) of Item 304 of Regulation S-K has occurred within Bio-Rad's fiscal years ending December 31, 2001 and 2000 or the period January 1, 2002 through July 8, 2002.

Bio-Rad has provided Andersen with a copy of the foregoing disclosures and requested a letter from Andersen addressed to the Securities and Exchange Commission stating whether it agrees with such statements. Andersen has orally advised the Company that due to recent events impacting Andersen's infrastructure it is unable to issue such a letter.

Bio-Rad did not consult with Deloitte & Touche during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, and the interim period from January 1, 2002 through July 8, 2002 on any matter which was the subject of any disagreement or any reportable event or on the application of accounting principles to a specified transaction, either completed or proposed.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

- (a) Not applicable
- (b) Not applicable
- (c) Exhibits

16.0 Press release dated July 9, 2002

Bio-Rad Selects Deloitte and Touche LLP As Independent
Public Accountants.

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.

BIO-RAD LABORATORIES, INC.
(Registrant)

Date: July 9, 2002

by: /s/ Sadford S. Wadler

Sanford S. Wadler,
Vice President, General Counsel
and Secretary