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

July 1, 2004

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported)

PATTERSON COMPANIES, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Minnesota (State or Other Jurisdiction

of Incorporation)

0-20572 (Commission File Number) 41-0886515 (IRS Employer

Identification No.)

1031 Mendota Heights Road

Edgar Filing: PATTERSON DENTAL CO - Form 8-K

St. Paul, Minnesota 55120

(Address of Principal Executive Offices, including Zip Code)

(651) 686-1600

(Registrant s Telephone Number, including Area Code)

ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS.

Reference is made to the press release issued to the public by the registrant on July 1, 2004 announcing the change of the registrant s name from Patterson Dental Company to Patterson Companies, Inc. Such press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99 and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

- (c) Exhibits.
 - Exhibit 99 Press release dated July 1, 2004.

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.

PATTERSON COMPANIES, INC.

Date: July 1, 2004

By: /s/ R. Stephen Armstrong

R. Stephen Armstrong Executive Vice President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit	
Number	Description
99	Press release announcing change of registrant s name, dated July 1, 2004.

5