

CHARLES RIVER LABORATORIES INTERNATIONAL INC  
Form 424B3  
March 24, 2003

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**PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

To Prospectus dated June 5, 2001

**Filed Pursuant to Rule 424 (b) (3) of the Rules and Regulations  
Under the Securities Act of 1933**

**Registration Statement No. 333-92383**

**Charles River Laboratories International, Inc.**

[Name of Issuer]

**Charles River Laboratories International, Inc.**

**Common Stock**

**Warrants To Purchase Common Stock**

[Title of Security]

**RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**

We have attached to the prospectus supplement, and incorporated by reference into it, the Form 10-K Annual Report of Charles River Laboratories International, Inc. for the Year Ending December 28, 2002 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 20, 2002.

March 24, 2003

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 10-K**

**FOR ANNUAL AND TRANSITION REPORTS PURSUANT TO  
SECTIONS 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

(MARK ONE)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 28, 2002

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
Commission File No. 333-92383

**CHARLES RIVER LABORATORIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

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**Delaware**

(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

**06-1397316**

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**251 Ballardvale Street  
Wilmington, Massachusetts**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**01887**

(Zip Code)

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**(978) 658-6000**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

<b>Title of each class</b>	<b>Name of each exchange on which registered</b>
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value	New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the Registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is an accelerated filer. Yes  No

As of June 28, 2002, the aggregate market value of the Registrant's voting common stock held by non-affiliates of the Registrant was approximately \$1,543,056,587. As of that date, there were outstanding 44,742,208 shares of the Registrant's common stock, \$0.01 par value per share.

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Registrant's Definitive Proxy Statement for its 2003 Annual Meeting of Stockholders scheduled to be held on May 2, 2003 (the 2003 Proxy Statement), which will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days after December 28, 2002, are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. With the exception of the portions of the 2003 Proxy Statement expressly incorporated into this Annual Report on Form 10-K by reference, such document shall not be deemed filed as part of this Form 10-K.

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**CHARLES RIVER LABORATORIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
FORM 10-K  
ANNUAL REPORT**

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## PART I

### Item 1. Business

#### General

This Annual Report on Form 10-K (Form 10-K), contains forward-looking statements regarding future events and the future results of Charles River Laboratories International, Inc. (Charles River) that are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts, and projections about the industries in which Charles River operates and the beliefs and assumptions of the management of Charles River. Words such as "expects," "anticipates," "targets," "goals," "projects," "intends," "plans," "believes," "seeks," "estimates," variations of such words, and similar expressions are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are only predictions and are subject to risks, uncertainties, and assumptions that are difficult to predict. Therefore, actual results may differ materially and adversely from those expressed in any forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause or contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to, those discussed in this Form 10-K under the section entitled "Risks Related to Our Business and Industry". Charles River undertakes no obligation to revise or update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason.

#### Corporate History

Charles River has been in business for over 55 years and has undergone several business structure changes over the years. Charles River Laboratories International, Inc. was incorporated in 1994. In 2000, we completed our initial public offering of Charles River Laboratories International, Inc.. Our stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "CRL" and is included in the Standard & Poor's S&P MidCap 400 Index. We are headquartered in Wilmington, Massachusetts. Our headquarters mailing address is 251 Ballardvale St., Wilmington, MA 01887, and the telephone number at that location is (978) 658-6000. Our Internet site is [www.criver.com](http://www.criver.com). Material contained on our Internet site is not incorporated by reference into this Form 10-K. Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this Form 10-K to "Charles River," "we," "us" or "our" refer to Charles River Laboratories International, Inc. and its subsidiaries.

This Form 10-K, as well as all other reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), are available free of charge through our Internet site as soon as practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. The public may read and copy any materials we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 450 Fifth Street NW, Washington, DC 20549. The public may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains an Internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>) that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC.

## Overview

We are a leading provider of critical research tools and integrated support services that enable innovative and efficient drug discovery and development. We are the global leader in providing the animal research models required in research and development for new drugs, devices and therapies and have been in this business for more than 55 years. Since 1992, we have built upon our research model technologies to develop a diverse and growing portfolio of biomedical products and services. Our wide array of services enables our customers to reduce costs, increase speed and enhance their productivity and effectiveness in drug discovery and development. Our customer base includes major pharmaceutical companies, biotechnology companies, as well as many government agencies, leading hospitals, and academic institutions throughout the world. We currently operate 82 facilities in 16 countries worldwide. Our differentiated products and services, supported by our global infrastructure and scientific expertise, enable our customers to meet many of the challenges of early-stage life sciences

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research, a large and growing market. In 2002, our net sales were \$554.6 million and our operating income was \$122.3 million.

**Biomedical Products and Services.** We have focused significant resources on developing a diverse portfolio of biomedical products and services. Our biomedical products and services business represented 59.7% of our total net sales in 2002. We expect the drug discovery and development markets that we serve will continue to experience growth, particularly as new drug development based on advances in genomics and proteomics continues to evolve. There are four business units within this segment of our business:

**Discovery Services.** Our discovery services are designed to assist our customers in screening drug candidates faster by providing a variety of services related to genetically-defined research models for in-house research and by implementing efficacy screening protocols to improve the customer's drug-evaluation process. We currently offer four major categories of discovery services: transgenic services, infectious disease and genetic testing, contract site management and laboratory and research support services. One of the largest contributors to this segment's growth in 2002 was our transgenic services business, where we work alongside researchers using embryo cryopreservation, rederivation and colony scale-up which enables them to develop new drug targets, pathways and, ultimately, drugs. In 2002, in order to meet the growing demand for these services, we built a new, state-of-the-art, 70,000 square foot facility. Discovery services contributed 18.8% of total net sales in 2002.

**Development Services.** We currently offer FDA-compliant development services in three main areas: drug safety assessment, biosafety testing and medical device testing. Biosafety testing services include a broad range of services specifically focused on supporting biotech or protein-based drug development, including such areas as protein characterization, cell banking, methods development and release testing. Our development services offerings enable our customers to outsource their high-end, non-core drug development activities. In June 2002, we acquired Biological Laboratories Europe Limited (BioLabs) and Springborn Laboratories Inc. (Springborn). BioLabs is our Ireland-based human and animal health testing company, which provides a broad range of services supporting the discovery, development and manufacture of pharmaceuticals, medical devices and animal and human health products. BioLabs' strengths include the development and conduct of bioassays under stringent regulatory conditions that test for the safety of toxins, hormones and other biologics used in medical treatments. Springborn, our Ohio-based drug safety assessment business we acquired in October 2002, is a leading provider of testing services for pre-clinical drug discovery and development, principally in evaluating the safety of new drug candidates before they enter human clinical trials. The acquisitions of BioLabs and Springborn greatly expanded our portfolio of outsourcing services and our ability to provide services globally. In October 2002, we also formed a joint venture, Charles River Proteomics Services, Inc., which we expect will provide proteomics testing services to our pharmaceutical and biotechnology customers on a fee-for-service basis. Proteomics testing is expected to be an important contributor to new drug development in the coming years. Development services, our largest business unit in this segment, contributed 32.7% of total net sales in 2002.

**In Vitro Technology.** We have diversified our product offerings to include non-animal, or *in vitro*, methods for testing the safety of drugs and devices. We are strategically committed to being the leader in providing our customers with *in vitro* alternatives as these methods become scientifically validated and commercially feasible. Our current products include endotoxin detection systems that ensure injectable drugs and devices are free from harmful contaminants. This business unit contributed 3.3% of total net sales in 2002.

**Vaccine Support Products.** We provide vaccine manufacturers with pathogen-free fertilized chicken eggs, a critical ingredient for poultry vaccine production. We believe there may be potential for

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growth in this area in support of novel human vaccines, such as a nasal spray flu vaccine currently in development. This business unit contributed 4.9% of total net sales in 2002.

**Research Models.** We are the global leader in the production and sale of research models, principally genetically and virally defined purpose-bred rats and mice. These products represented 40.3% of our 2002 total net sales. We offer approximately 165 research models, one of the largest selections of small animal models of any provider worldwide. Our higher growth models include genetically defined models and models with compromised immune systems, which are increasingly in demand as early-stage research tools. The FDA and foreign regulatory bodies typically require the safety and efficacy of new drug candidates and many medical devices to be tested on research models like ours prior to testing in humans. As a result, our research models are an essential part of the drug discovery and development process. Our research models are produced in a biosecure environment designed to ensure that the animals are free of viral and bacterial agents and other contaminants that can disrupt research operations and distort results. With our biosecure production capabilities and our ability to deliver consistent, high quality research models worldwide, we are well positioned to benefit from the steady growth in research and development spending by pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies and continued research spending by government agencies such as the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH). In 2002, for the first time in a decade, we added production space in three North America locations: Massachusetts, California and Montreal, Canada, to accommodate the sales growth in research models.

### Competitive Strengths

Our products and services are critical to both traditional pharmaceutical research and the growing fields of genomics, proteomics, recombinant protein, and humanized antibody research. We believe we are well positioned to compete effectively in all of these markets as a result of a diverse set of competitive strengths, which include:

**Critical Products and Services.** We provide critical, proven and enabling products and services that our customers rely on to advance their early-stage research efforts and accelerate product development. We offer a wide array of complementary research tools and discovery and development services that differentiate us from our competition and have created a sustained competitive advantage in our markets.

**Long-Standing Reputation for Scientific Excellence.** We have earned our long-standing reputation for scientific excellence by consistently delivering high-quality research models supported by exceptional technical service and support for over 55 years. As a result, the Charles River brand name is synonymous with premium quality products and services and scientific excellence in the biomedical research industry. We have nearly 250 science professionals on staff with D.V.M.s, Ph.D.s and M.D.s, in areas including laboratory animal medicine, molecular biology, pathology, immunology, toxicology and pharmacology.

**Extensive Global Infrastructure and Customer Relationships.** Our operations are globally integrated throughout North America, Europe and Asia. Our extensive investment in worldwide infrastructure allows us to standardize our products and services across borders when required by our multinational customers, while also offering a customized local presence when needed. We currently operate 82 facilities in 16 countries worldwide, serving a global customer base.

**Biosecurity Technology Expertise.** In our research models business, our commitment to and expert knowledge of biosecurity technology distinguishes us from our competition. We maintain rigorous biosecurity standards in all of our facilities to maintain the health profile and consistency of our research models. These qualities are crucial to the integrity and timeliness of our customers' research.

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**Platform Acquisition and Internal Development Capabilities.** We have a proven track record of successfully identifying, acquiring, and developing complementary businesses and new technologies. With this experience, we have developed internal expertise in sourcing acquisitions and further developing new technologies.

**Experienced and Incentivized Management Team.** Most of our senior management team has an average of nearly 20 years of service with our company. Our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, James C. Foster, has been with us for 27 years. As of December 28, 2002 our management team owned, or had options to acquire, securities representing approximately 3.0% of our equity on a fully-diluted basis.

### Our Strategy

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Our business strategy is to build upon our core research model business and to actively invest in higher-growth opportunities where our proven capabilities and strong relationships allow us to achieve and maintain a leadership position. Our growth strategies include:

***Broaden the Scope of Our Discovery and Development Services.*** Primarily through acquisitions and alliances, we have improved our ability to offer new services that complement our existing drug discovery business. We intend to provide the additional critical support services needed to create, define, characterize and scientifically validate new genetic models expected to arise out of the Human Genome and Mouse Genome Projects.

***Expand Our Pre-clinical Outsourcing Services.*** Many of our pharmaceutical and biotechnology customers outsource a wide variety of research activities that are critical to their scientific innovation process. We believe the trend of outsourcing pre-clinical or early-stage research will continue to increase. We are well positioned to exploit both existing and new outsourcing opportunities, principally through our discovery and development services offerings. We believe our early successes in the transgenic services area have increased customer demand for outsourcing and have created significant opportunities. Our research support services provide pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies with significant cost and resource allocation advantages over their existing internal operations. We intend to focus our marketing efforts on stimulating demand for further outsourcing of pre-clinical research. We also intend to expand our opportunities by increasing our international presence.

***Pursue Strategic Acquisitions and Alliances.*** Over the past decade, we have completed 21 acquisitions and alliances that have contributed to our financial results. Several of our operations began as platform acquisitions, which we were able to grow by developing and marketing the acquired products or services to our extensive global customer base. We intend to further pursue strategic platform acquisitions to drive our long-term growth. We believe our approach to acquisitions is a disciplined one that seeks to focus on businesses that are a sound strategic fit and that offer the prospect of enhancing stockholder value. This strategy may include geographic expansion of an existing core service or strengthening of one of our core services.

### Business Segments

Our business is divided into two segments: Biomedical Products and Services, and Research Models.

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### ***BIOMEDICAL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES***

Our biomedical products and services business segment consists of the following operations:

<b><u>Discovery Services</u></b>	<b><u>Development Services</u></b>	<b><u>In Vitro Technology</u></b>	<b><u>Vaccine Support Products</u></b>
Transgenic Services	Pharmacokinetic and Metabolic Analysis	Endotoxin Detection Systems	Animal Health
Infectious Disease and Genetic Testing	Bioanalytical Chemistry	In Vitro Safety Screening	Human Health
Contract Site Management	Pharmacologic Surgery		
Laboratory and Research Support Services	General and Specialty Toxicology		
	Medical Device Testing		
	Pathology Services		
	Biosafety Testing		
	Proteomics Testing		

#### ***Discovery Services***

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Discovery represents the earliest stages of research and development in the life sciences, directed to the identification (discovery) and selection of a lead compound for future drug development. Discovery is followed by development activities, which are directed at validation of the selected drug candidates. Discovery and development represent most of the pre-clinical activities in drug development.

Initiated in 1995, the discovery services area of our business addresses the growing need among pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to outsource the non-core aspects of their drug discovery activities. These discovery services capitalize on the technologies and relationships developed through our research model business. We currently offer four major categories of discovery services: transgenic services, infectious disease and genetic testing, contract site management, and laboratory and research support services.

*Transgenic Services.* In this area of our business, we assist our customers in validating, maintaining, improving, breeding and testing research models purchased or created by them for biomedical research activities. While the creation of a transgenic model can be a critical scientific event, it is only the first step in the discovery process. Productive utilization of research models requires significant additional technical expertise. We provide transgenic breeding expertise, model characterization and colony development, genetic characterization, quarantine, embryo cryopreservation, embryo transfer, rederivation, and health and genetic monitoring. We provide these services to nearly 200 laboratories around the world from pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to hospitals and universities. We maintain more than 1,000 different types of naturally occurring or experimentally manipulated research models for our customers. We expect that the demand for our services will grow as the use of transgenic animal models continues to grow within the research community. In 2002, in order to meet the growing demand for these services, we built a new, state-of-the-art, 70,000-square-foot facility in Wilmington, MA.

*Infectious Disease and Genetic Testing.* We assist our customers in monitoring and analyzing the health and genetics of the research models used in their research protocols. We developed this capability internally by building upon the scientific foundation created by the diagnostic laboratory needs of our research model business. Depending upon a customer's needs, we may serve as its sole-source testing laboratory, or as an alternative source supporting its internal laboratory capabilities.

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We believe that the continued growth in development and utilization of transgenic models will drive our future growth as the reference laboratory of choice for genetic testing of special models.

*Contract Site Management.* Building upon our core capability as a leading provider of high-quality research models, we manage animal care operations on behalf of government, academic, pharmaceutical and biotechnology organizations. Demand for our services reflects the growing necessity of these large institutions to outsource internal functions or activities that are not critical to the core scientific innovation process. In addition, we believe that our expertise in managing the laboratory animal environment enhances the productivity and quality of our customers' research facilities. This area leads to additional opportunities for us to provide other products and services to our customers. Site management does not require us to make any incremental investment, thereby generating a favorable return on deployed assets.

*Laboratory and Research Support Services.* Our laboratory and research support services provide advanced or specialized research model studies for our customers. These projects capitalize on our strong research model capabilities and also utilize more recently developed capabilities in protocol development, animal micro-surgery, dosing techniques, drug effectiveness testing and data management and analysis. We believe these services, particularly in oncology and cardiovascular studies, offer added value to our research customers, who rely on our extensive expertise, infrastructure and resources.

### ***Development Services***

Our development services enable our customers to outsource their non-core drug development activities to us. These activities are typically required for the discovery of the lead compound and to support the regulatory filings necessary to obtain FDA approval. The demand for these services is driven by the trend to outsource certain pre-clinical drug development work. We currently offer development services in eight main areas: pharmacokinetic and metabolic analysis, bioanalytical chemistry, pharmacologic surgery, general and specialty toxicology, medical device testing, pathology services, biosafety testing and proteomics testing.

*Pharmacokinetic and Metabolic Analysis.* Our scientists conduct pharmacokinetic studies to determine the mechanisms by which drugs function in mammalian systems to produce therapeutic effects, as well as to understand how drugs may produce undesirable or toxic effects. Our scientists also conduct metabolic studies to reveal how drugs are broken down and excreted, and the duration that drugs or their byproducts remain in various organs and tissues. These studies can be performed as part of the drug screening process to help discover lead compounds, as well as later in the development process to provide information regarding safety and efficacy.

**Bioanalytical Chemistry.** Our bioanalytical chemistry services support all phases of drug development from discovery to non-clinical studies and clinical trials. Our researchers design and conduct lead-optimization projects, develop and validate methods used to analyze samples and conduct protein binding studies.

**Pharmacologic Surgery.** Many sophisticated drugs are designed to be administered directly to a precise location within the body using surgical, or "invasive," techniques. The development of these and certain other drugs requires the use of surgical techniques to administer a drug, or to observe its effects in various tissues. Our pharmacologic surgery program offers extensive capabilities in this area, and has developed numerous research models in collaboration with world-renowned experts in the fields of cardiology, inflammation, and pathology at leading academic institutions.

**General and Specialty Toxicology.** Our team of scientists, including toxicologists, pathologists, and regulatory specialists, designs and performs general and highly-specialized studies to evaluate the safety and toxicity of new pharmaceutical compounds and materials used in medical devices. We are an

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industry leader in the fields of reproductive and developmental toxicology, photobiology, and other specialty toxicological assessments.

**Medical Device Testing.** The FDA requires companies introducing medical devices to test the biocompatibility of any new materials that have not previously been approved for contact with human tissue. We provide a wide variety of medical device testing services from prototype feasibility testing to long-term GLP, or good laboratory practices, studies, primarily in large research models. These services include cardiovascular surgery, biomaterial reactivity studies, orthopedic studies and related laboratory services. We maintain state-of-the-art surgical suites where our skilled professional staff implement custom surgery protocols provided by our customers.

**Pathology Services.** In the drug development process, the ability to identify and characterize pathologic changes within tissues and cells is critical in determining the safety of a new compound. We employ highly-trained pathologists who use state-of-the-art techniques to identify pathology within tissues and cells, as well as at the molecular level. Frequently, decisions regarding continued product development are dependent on these pathology findings.

**Biosafety Testing.** We provide specialized non-clinical quality control testing that is frequently outsourced by both pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. These services allow our customers to determine if the human protein drug candidates, or the process for manufacturing those products, are essentially free of residual biological materials. The bulk of this testing work is required by the FDA for obtaining new drug approval, maintaining an FDA-licensed manufacturing facility or releasing approved products for use in patients. Our scientific staff consults with customers in the areas of process development, validation, manufacturing scale-up and biological testing. We also provide, on a very small scale, services to develop and manufacture drugs in small quantities that are needed for early and mid-stage clinical trials.

**Proteomics Testing.** In October 2002, we established a joint venture, 80% owned by us, that will provide leading-edge proteomics testing and analysis services on a fee-for-service contract basis to the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. Proteomics testing involves the separation, identification and characterization of proteins present in a tissue or other biological samples. By comparing the proteins in samples from animal models and humans affected by a particular disease with those present in samples from healthy models and individuals, it is possible for the drug discovery customer to identify directly those proteins that are potentially related to that disease, condition or treatment. These proteins would then have commercial potential as targets for the development of new drugs, as novel therapeutics, or as diagnostics and biomarkers.

### ***In Vitro Technology***

While the scientific community does not foresee significant replacement of animal models with the use of *in vitro* techniques, we believe that these techniques may offer a refinement or complement to animal test systems after the extended period of scientific validation is successfully completed. We intend to pursue this area to the extent alternatives become commercially viable.

**Endotoxin Detection Systems.** We are a market leader in endotoxin testing, which is used to test quality control samples of injectable drugs and devices, their components and the processes under which they are manufactured, for the presence of endotoxins. Endotoxins are fever-producing pathogens or compounds that are highly toxic to humans when sufficient quantities are introduced into the body. Quality control testing for endotoxin contamination by our customers is an FDA requirement for injectable drugs and devices, and the manufacture of the test kits and reagents is regulated by the FDA as a medical device. Endotoxin testing uses a processed extract from the blood of the horseshoe crab, known as limulus ameobocyte lysate (LAL). The LAL test is the first and only major FDA-validated *in vitro* alternative to an animal model test



for endotoxin detection in pharmaceutical

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and medical device manufacturing. The process of extracting blood is not harmful to the crabs, which are subsequently returned to their natural ocean environment. We produce and distribute test kits, reagents, software, accessories, instruments and associated services to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies for medical devices and other products worldwide. We have a patent relating to our next generation of endotoxin testing technology.

*In Vitro Safety Screening.* We provide a non-animal *in vitro* safety screening test, Endosafe® iPT. The Endosafe iPT test, which is aimed at the \$50 million market for lot-release testing of products derived from human blood and biologicals, is used for detecting harmful microbial contamination in drugs, medical devices and a wide range of therapeutic products. We are also intending to expand our *in vitro* market opportunity with a new, portable version of our highly successful endotoxin testing platform. The Endosafe Portable Testing System (Endosafe PTS) allows endotoxin testing in the field, affording researchers accurate and timely results.

#### ***Vaccine Support Products***

*Animal Health.* We are the global leader for the supply of specific pathogen-free, or SPF, chickens and fertile chicken eggs. SPF chicken embryos are used by animal health companies as self-contained "bioreactors" for the manufacturing of live and killed viruses. These viruses are used as a raw material in poultry and human vaccine applications. The production of SPF eggs is done under biosecure conditions, similar to our research model production. We have a worldwide presence that includes several SPF egg production facilities in the United States, as well as facilities in Germany and Australia. We have a joint venture in Mexico and a franchise in India. We also operate a specialized avian laboratory in the United States, which provides in-house testing and support services to our customers.

*Human Health.* We are also applying our SPF egg technology to human vaccine markets. We have an agreement with a company that is in the late stages of the FDA approval process for a nasal spray-delivered vaccine for human flu. If FDA-approved and commercially successful, we expect this human flu vaccine may increase demand for our SPF eggs.

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#### ***RESEARCH MODELS***

Research models represent our historical core business and accounted for 40.3% of total net sales in 2002. The business is comprised of the commercial production and sale of animal research models, principally purpose-bred rats, mice and other rodents for use by researchers. We are the commercial leader in the small animal research model area, supplying rodents for research since 1947. Our research models include:

outbred animals, which are genetically heterogeneous;

inbred animals, which are genetically identical;

other genetically-modified research models, such as consomics;

hybrid animals, which are the offspring of two different inbred parents;

spontaneous mutant animals, which contain a naturally-occurring genetic mutation (such as immune deficiency); and

transgenic animals, which contain genetic material transferred from another source.

With approximately 165 research models, we offer one of the largest selections of small animal models and provide our customers with high-volume and high-quality production. Our rats, mice and other rodent species such as guinea pigs and hamsters have been and continue to be some of the most extensively used research models in the world, largely as a result of our continuous commitment to innovation and quality in the breeding process. We provide our small animal models to numerous customers around the world, including all major pharmaceutical companies, biotechnology companies as well as many government agencies, leading hospitals, and academic institutions. With our acquisition of Genetic Models, Inc. in 2001, we acquired new and proprietary, disease-specific rat models used to find new treatments for diseases such as diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular disease, and kidney disease.

The use of animal models is critical to both the discovery and development of a new drug. The FDA requires that a drug be tested for safety and efficacy on two species of animal models, one small and one large, before moving into the clinic for testing on humans. Animal testing is used in order to identify, define, characterize and assess the safety of new drug candidates. Increasingly, genetically defined rats and mice are the models of choice in early discovery and development work as a more specifically targeted research tool. Outbred rats are frequently used in safety assessment studies. Our models are also used in life science research in universities, hospitals and other research institutions. Unlike drug discovery, these uses are generally not specifically mandated by regulatory agencies such as the FDA, but instead are governed by the terms of government grants, institutional protocols, as well as the scientific inquiry and peer review publication processes. We also provide larger animal models, including rabbits and primates, to the research community, principally for use in drug development and testing studies.

We believe that over the next several years, many new research models will be developed and used in biomedical research, such as transgenic models with identical genes, knock-out models with one or more disabled genes, and models that incorporate or exclude a particular mouse, rat or human gene. These more highly-defined and characterized models will allow researchers to further focus their investigations into disease conditions and potential new therapies or interventions. We intend to build upon our position as the leader in transgenic services to expand our presence in this market for higher-value models.

Through our strategic partnership with The Jackson Laboratory, an internationally renowned research institution that develops unique mouse models for use in medical research, drug discovery and development work, we produce and distribute The Jackson Laboratory's research models in Europe and Asia. The partnership combines The Jackson Laboratory's strength in genetic science with our

global production and distribution capabilities. We view this relationship as an important step toward broadening the scope of our research models business.

### **Customers**

Our customers consist primarily of large pharmaceutical companies, as well as biotechnology, animal health, medical device and diagnostic companies and hospitals, academic institutions, and government agencies and other life sciences companies. We have many long-term, stable relationships with our customers.

During 2002, in both our research models and our biomedical products and services businesses, more than three-quarters of our sales were to pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, and the balance were to hospitals, universities and government agencies. No single customer accounted for 3% or more of our total net sales in 2002 and our top 20 customers accounted for 31.1% of total net sales in 2002.

For net sales and long-lived assets attributable to each of our business segments for the last three fiscal years, please review Note 15 included in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this Form 10-K.

For net sales and long-lived assets attributable to operations in the United States, Japan, France and other countries for each of the last three fiscal years, please review Note 15 included in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this Form 10-K.

### **Sales, Marketing and Customer Support**

We sell our products and services principally through our direct sales force, the majority of whom work in the United States, with the balance working in Europe and Japan. The direct sales force is supplemented by a network of international distributors for some areas of our biomedical products and services business.

Our internal marketing groups support the field sales staff while developing and implementing programs to create close working relationships with customers in the biomedical research industry. We believe our Internet site, [www.criver.com](http://www.criver.com), is an effective marketing tool, and has become recognized as a valuable resource in the laboratory animal field by a broad spectrum of industry leaders.

We maintain both customer service and technical assistance departments, which service our customers' routine and more specialized needs. We frequently assist our customers in solving problems related to animal husbandry, health and genetics, biosecurity, protocol development and other areas in which our expertise is recognized as a valuable customer resource.

### **Research and Development**

We do not maintain a fully-dedicated research and development staff. Rather, this work is done on an individual project basis or through collaborations with universities or other institutions. Our approach to developing new products or services is to extend our base technologies into new applications and fields, and to license or acquire technologies to serve as platforms for the development of new businesses that service our existing customer base. Our research and development focus is principally on developing projects that improve our productivity or processes.

### **Industry Support and Animal Welfare**

Among the shared values of our employees is a concern for and commitment to animal welfare. We have been in the forefront of animal welfare improvements in our industry, and continue to

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demonstrate our commitment with special recognition programs for employees who demonstrate an extraordinary commitment in this critical area of our business.

We support a wide variety of organizations and individuals working to further animal welfare as well as the interests of the biomedical research community. We fund internships in laboratory animal medicine, provide financial support to non-profit institutions that educate the public about the benefits of animal research and provide awards and prizes to outstanding leaders in the laboratory animal medicine field. One of our businesses dedicates a portion of its net sales, through a royalty, to support similar programs and initiatives.

### **Employees**

As of December 28, 2002, we had approximately 5,000 employees, including nearly 250 science professionals with advanced degrees including D.V.M.s, Ph.D.s and M.D.s. Our employees are not unionized in the United States, although employees are unionized at some of our European facilities, consistent with local custom for our industry. Our annual satisfaction surveys indicate that we have a good relationship with our employees.

### **Competition**

Our strategy is to become a leader in each of the markets in which we participate. Our competitors are generally different in each of our business and geographic areas.

In our research models business division, our main competitors include three smaller competitors in North America, several smaller ones in Europe, and two smaller ones in Japan. Of our main United States competitors, two are privately-held businesses and the third is a government-funded, non-profit institution. We believe that none of our competitors for research models has our comparable global reach, financial strength, breadth of product and services offerings and pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry relationships.

We have many competitors in our biomedical products and services business segment. A few of our competitors in our biomedical products and services business are larger than we are and may have greater capital, technical or other resources than we do, however, many are smaller and more regionalized. We have a small relative share in the biosafety testing market, where the market leader is a well-established company, and in medical device testing, where there are many larger competitors.

We compete in the marketplace on the basis of quality, reputation and availability, supported by our international presence with strategically located facilities.

### **Regulatory Matters**

The Animal Welfare Act (AWA) governs the treatment of particular species intended for use in research. The AWA imposes a wide variety of specific regulations on producers and users of these species, most notably cage size, shipping conditions, sanitation and environmental enrichment methods. We comply with licensing and registration requirement standards set by the United States Department of Agriculture

(USDA) for handling regulated species, including breeding, maintenance and transportation. However, rats, mice and chickens are not regulated under the AWA. Congress recently adopted legislation which permanently excludes these species from regulation under the AWA. As a result, most of our United States small animal research model activities and our vaccine support services operations are not subject to regulation under the AWA. Our animal production facilities in the United States are accredited by a highly regarded member association known as AAALAC, which maintains standards that often exceed those of the USDA.

Our biomedical products and services business is also generally regulated by the USDA, and in the case of our endotoxin detection systems, the FDA. Our manufacture of test kits and reagents for

endotoxin testing is subject to regulation by the FDA under the authority of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. We are required to register with the FDA as a device manufacturer and are subject to inspection on a routine basis for compliance with the FDA's Quality System Regulations and Good Manufacturing Practices. These regulations require that we manufacture our products and maintain our documents in a prescribed manner with respect to manufacturing, testing and control activities.

### **Corporate Governance**

We are committed to operating our business with integrity and accountability. Last summer, the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) submitted a set of corporate governance standards to the SEC for approval. We either already had in place or have since implemented the relevant standards proposed by the NYSE. For example, seven of our eight Board members are independent and have no financial, personal or significant business ties to the Company or management, and all of our Board committees, other than the Executive Committee, are composed of independent directors. The Board adopted corporate governance guidelines and a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics which has been communicated to employees and posted on our website. We have always been diligent in complying with established accounting principles and are committed to providing financial information that is transparent, timely and accurate. We have established a process through which employees, either directly or anonymously, can notify us (and the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors) of alleged accounting and auditing concerns or violations. We created an internal disclosure committee and adopted disclosure procedures and guidelines to help ensure that our public disclosures are accurate and timely, as recommended by the SEC.

### **Industry and Market Data**

In this Form 10-K, we rely on and refer to information and statistics regarding the research model and biomedical products and services industries, and our market share in the markets in which we compete. We obtained this information and statistics from various third-party sources, none of which should be considered definitive, discussions with our customers and/or our own internal estimates. We believe that these sources and estimates are reliable, but we have not independently verified them.

### **Risks Related to Our Business and Industry**

Set forth below and elsewhere in this Form 10-K and in other documents we file with the SEC are risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the results contemplated by the forward-looking statements contained in this Form 10-K.

#### ***Our business is subject to risks relating to operating internationally.***

A significant part of our net sales is derived from operations outside the United States. Our international revenues, which include revenues from our non-U.S. subsidiaries, represented 27.4% of our total net sales in 2002, 27.3% in 2001 and 37.1% in 2000. We expect that international revenues will continue to account for a significant percentage of our revenues for the foreseeable future. There are a number of risks arising from our international business, including:

foreign currencies we receive for sales outside the U.S. could be subject to unfavorable exchange rates with the U.S. dollar and reduce the amount of revenue that we recognize;

general economic and political conditions in the markets in which we operate;

potential increased costs associated with overlapping tax structures;

potential trade restrictions and exchange controls;

more limited protection for intellectual property rights in some countries;

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difficulties and costs associated with staffing and managing foreign operations;

unexpected changes in regulatory requirements;

the difficulties of compliance with a wide variety of foreign laws and regulations;

longer accounts receivable cycles in certain foreign countries; and

import and export licensing requirements.

Our operations and financial results could be significantly affected by the above mentioned risks. For example, because the sales and expenses of our foreign operations are generally denominated in local currencies, we are subject to exchange rate fluctuations between local currencies and the U.S. dollar in the reported results of our foreign operations. These fluctuations may decrease our earnings. We currently do not hedge against the risk of exchange rate fluctuations. The economic situation in some of the foreign countries in which we operate may result in slower payments of outstanding receivable balances. Our financial results could be adversely affected by weakness in the economies and currencies in these regions.

**Threat of future terrorist activity or related U.S. military action may have a negative impact on the economy and our business.**

The current political and business turmoil in many parts of the world, including the threat of future terrorist attacks on the U.S. and other parts of the world and related U.S. military action, continues to put severe pressure on global economic conditions, and the U.S. economy. Such an effect may have a negative affect on research and development outsourcing and spending, which would adversely impact our business.

***A reduction or delay in government funding of research and development, or in research and development budgets, may adversely affect our business.***

A substantial portion of net sales in our Research Models segment is derived from customers at academic institutions and research laboratories whose funding is partially dependent on both the level and timing of funding from government sources, such as the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) and similar domestic and international agencies. Although the level of government research funding has increased during the past several years, we believe this increase may not continue in the short term. Government funding of research and development is subject to the political process, which is inherently fluid and unpredictable. Our sales may be adversely affected if our customers delay purchases as a result of uncertainties surrounding the approval of government budget proposals. Also, government proposals to reduce or eliminate budgetary deficits have sometimes included reduced allocations to the NIH and other government agencies that fund research and development activities. A reduction in government funding for the NIH or other government research agencies could adversely affect our business and our financial results. Our customers generally receive funds from approved grants at particular times of the year, as determined by the U.S. federal government. In the past, grants have been frozen for extended periods or have otherwise become unavailable to various institutions without advance notice. The timing of the receipt of grant funds affects the timing of purchase decisions by our customers and, as a result, can cause fluctuations in our sales and operating results.

Our customers also include researchers at pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Our ability to continue to grow and win new business is dependent upon the ability and willingness of the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries to continue to spend on research and development at rates close to or at historical levels and to outsource the products and services we provide. Fluctuations in the research and development budgets of these researchers and their organizations could have a significant effect on the demand for our products and services. Research and development budgets fluctuate due to changes in available resources, mergers of pharmaceutical and biotechnology

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companies, spending priorities and institutional budgetary policies. Our business could be adversely affected by any significant decrease in life sciences research and development expenditures by pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, as well as by academic institutions, government laboratories or private foundations.

***Our customer contracts are generally terminable on little or no notice. Termination of a large contract for services or multiple contracts for services could adversely affect our sales and profitability.***

Generally, our agreements with our customers provide that the customer can terminate the agreements or reduce the scope of services under the agreements on little or no notice. Customers may elect to terminate their agreements with us for various reasons, including: unexpected or undesired study results; production problems resulting in shortages of the drug being tested; the customer's decision to forego or terminate a particular study; or the loss of funding for the particular research study. If a customer terminates a contract with us, we are entitled under the terms of the contract to receive revenue earned to date as well as certain other costs. Primarily in our biomedical products and services segment, cancellation of a large contract or simultaneous cancellation of multiple contracts could materially adversely affect that segment's business and, therefore, may adversely affect our operating results.

***If we are not successful in selecting and integrating the businesses and technologies we acquire, our business may suffer.***

During the past two years, we have expanded our business through four significant acquisitions. We plan to continue to grow our business through acquisitions of businesses and technologies and the formation of alliances. However, businesses and technologies may not be available on terms and conditions we find acceptable. Even if completed, acquisitions and alliances involve numerous risks which may include:

difficulties and expenses incurred in assimilating operations, services, products or technologies;

difficulties in developing and operating new businesses, including diversion of management's attention from other business concerns;

the potential loss of key employees of an acquired business and difficulties in attracting new employees to grow businesses;

difficulties in assimilating differences in foreign business practices and overcoming language barriers;

difficulties in obtaining intellectual property protections and skills that we and our employees currently do not have; and

difficulties in achieving business and financial success.

In the event that an acquired business or technology or an alliance does not meet expectations, our results of operations may be adversely affected. We may not be able to successfully integrate acquisitions into our existing business or successfully exploit new business or technologies.

***Contaminations in our animal populations can damage our inventory, harm our reputation for contaminant-free production and result in decreased sales.***

Our research models and fertile chicken eggs must be free of contaminants such as viruses and bacteria because the presence of contaminants can distort or compromise the quality of research results. Contaminations in our isolated breeding rooms or poultry houses could disrupt our contaminant-free research model and fertile egg production, harm our reputation for contaminant-free production and result in decreased sales.

Contaminations typically require cleaning up the contaminated room or poultry house. This clean-up results in inventory loss, clean-up and start-up costs, and reduced sales as a result of lost customer orders and credits for prior shipments. These contaminations are unanticipated and difficult to predict. Several years ago, we experienced a number of material contaminations in our animal populations that adversely impacted our financial results. Since those experiences, we have made significant capital expenditures designed to strengthen our biosecurity and have significantly changed our operating procedures. Since making such changes, we have not experienced any significant contaminations.

***New technologies may be developed, validated and increasingly used in biomedical research that could reduce demand for some of our products and services.***

For many years, groups within the scientific and research communities have attempted to develop models, methods and systems that would replace or supplement the use of living animals as test subjects in biomedical research. Companies have developed several techniques that have scientific merit, especially in the area of cosmetics and household product testing, markets in which we are not active. Only a few alternative test methods in the discovery and development of effective and safe treatments for human and animal disease conditions have been validated and successfully deployed. The principal validated non-animal test system is the LAL, or endotoxin detection system, a technology which we acquired and have aggressively marketed as an alternative to testing in animals. It is our strategy to participate in some fashion with any non-animal test method as it becomes validated as a research model alternative or adjunct in our markets. However, these methods may not be available to us or we may not be successful in commercializing these methods. Even if we are successful, sales or profits from these methods may not offset reduced sales or profits from research models. Alternative research methods could decrease the need for research models, and we may not be able to develop new products effectively or in a timely manner to replace any lost sales.

***The outsourcing trend in the pre-clinical and non-clinical stages of drug discovery and development, meaning contracting out to others functions that were previously performed internally, may decrease, which could slow our growth.***

Some areas of our biomedical products and services business have grown significantly as a result of the increase over the past several years in pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies outsourcing their pre-clinical and non-clinical research support activities. While industry analysts expect the outsourcing trend to continue for the next several years, a substantial decrease in pre-clinical and non-clinical outsourcing activity could result in a diminished growth rate in the sales of one or more of our expected higher-growth areas.

***We face significant competition in our business, and if we are unable to respond to competition in our business, our revenues may decrease.***

We face significant competition from different competitors in each of our business units. Some of our competitors are larger than we are and may have greater capital, technical or other resources than we do. We generally compete on the basis of quality, reputation and availability of service. Expansion by our competitors into other areas in which we operate, new entrants into our markets or changes in our competitors' strategies could adversely affect our competitive position. Any erosion of our competitive position may decrease our revenues or limit our growth.

***Negative attention from special interest groups may impair our business.***

Our core research model activities with rats, mice and other rodents have not historically been the subject of animal rights media attention. However, we did close our small import facility in England in 2000 due in part to protests by animal right activists, which included threats against our facilities and

employees. Future negative attention or threats against our facilities or employees could adversely affect our business.

***One of our large animal operations is dependent on a single source of supply, which if interrupted could adversely affect our business.***

We depend on a single, international source of supply for one of our large animal operations. Disruptions to their continued supply may arise from export or import restrictions or embargoes, foreign government or economic instability, or severe weather conditions. Any disruption of supply could harm our business if we cannot remove the disruption or are unable to secure an alternative or secondary source on comparable commercial terms.

***Tax benefits we expect to be available in the future may be subject to challenge.***

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In connection with our 1999 recapitalization, our then current shareholders, CRL Acquisition LLC (CRL Acquisition) and Bausch & Lomb Incorporated (B&L), made a joint election intended to permit us to increase the depreciable and amortizable tax basis in our assets for federal income tax purposes, thereby providing us with expected future tax benefits. In connection with our initial public offering in 2000, CRL Acquisition reorganized, terminated its existence as a corporation for tax purposes and distributed a substantial portion of our stock to its members. We believe that the reorganization and liquidating distribution should not have any impact on the election for federal income tax purposes. However, it is possible that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) may contend that this reorganization and liquidating distribution should be integrated with our original recapitalization. If the IRS were to be successful with this contention, the expected future tax benefits at the time of the recapitalization would not be available and we would be required to write off the related deferred tax asset.

***We depend on key personnel and may not be able to retain these employees or recruit additional qualified personnel, which would harm our business.***

Our success depends to a significant extent on the continued services of our senior management and other members of management. James C. Foster, our Chief Executive Officer since 1992, has held various positions with us for 27 years and is our Chairman. We have no employment agreement with Mr. Foster, nor with any other executive officer. If Mr. Foster or other members of management do not continue in their present positions, our business may suffer.

Because of the specialized scientific nature of our business, we are highly dependent upon qualified scientific, technical and managerial personnel. There is strong competition for qualified personnel in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology fields. Therefore, we may not be able to attract and retain the qualified personnel necessary for the development of our business. The loss of the services of existing personnel, as well as the failure to recruit additional key scientific, technical and managerial personnel in a timely manner, could harm our business.

***Our quarterly operating results may vary, which could negatively affect the market price of our common stock.***

Our results of operations in any quarter may vary from quarter to quarter and are influenced by such factors as the number and scope of ongoing customer engagements, the commencement, postponement, completion or cancellation of customer contracts in the quarter, changes in the mix of our products and services, the extent of cost overruns, holiday patterns of our customers, budget cycles of our customers, and exchange rate fluctuations. We believe that operating results for any particular quarter are not necessarily a meaningful indication of future results. Nonetheless, fluctuations in our quarterly operating results could negatively affect the market price of our common stock.

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***Our historical financial information prior to December 25, 1999 may not be representative of our results as a separate company.***

On September 29, 1999, CRL Acquisition, a limited liability company owned by affiliates of DLJ Merchant Banking Partners, II, L.P., our management and other investors, together with our former parent company, B&L, completed a recapitalization transaction. The historical financial information in this Form 10-K for the periods prior to the recapitalization may not reflect what our results of operations, financial position and cash flows would have been had we been a separate, stand-alone company prior to the recapitalization. We made some adjustments and allocations to the historical financial statements for the periods prior to the recapitalization included in this Form 10-K because B&L did not account for us as a single stand-alone business in those periods. Our adjustments and allocations made in preparing our historical consolidated financial statements may not appropriately reflect our operations during the periods presented as if we had operated as a stand-alone company.

### Item 2. Properties

The following charts provide summary information on our properties. The first chart lists the sites we own, and the second chart lists the sites we lease. Most of our leases expire from 2003 to 2006. None of these leases are material to our business operations and many have option to renew. We believe that we will be able to successfully renew expiring leases on terms satisfactory to us.

Country	Sites Owned		Principal Functions
	No. of Sites	Total Square Feet	
Belgium	1	23,284	Office, Production



Country	No. of Sites	Total Square Feet	Principal Functions
Canada	1	74,069	Office, Production, Laboratory
China	1	19,372	Office, Production, Laboratory
France	5	666,100	Office, Production, Laboratory
Germany	3	154,484	Office, Production, Laboratory
Mexico	2	88,582	Office, Production, Laboratory
Italy	1	43,390	Office, Production, Laboratory
Japan	2	116,340	Office, Production, Laboratory
Ireland	2	102,619	Office, Production, Laboratory
United Kingdom	2	58,240	Office, Production, Laboratory
United States	24	1,130,285	Office, Production, Laboratory
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>2,476,765</b>	

#### Sites Leased

Country	No. of Sites	Total Square Feet	Principal Functions
Australia	1	8,518	Office, Production
Hungary	2	11,550	Office, Production, Laboratory
Japan	6	62,326	Office, Production, Laboratory
Netherlands	1	300	Office
Spain	1	3,228	Office
Sweden	1	9,073	Sales Office
United States	26	731,886	Office, Production, Laboratory
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>826,881</b>	

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### Item 3. Legal Proceedings

We are not a party to any material legal proceedings, other than ordinary routine litigation incidental to our business that is not material to our business or financial condition.

### Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

None.

### Supplementary Item. Executive Officers of the Registrant pursuant to Instruction 3 to Item 401(b) of Regulation S-K.

Below are the names, ages and principal occupations for the last five years of each our current executive officers. All such persons have been elected to serve until their successors are elected and qualified or until their earlier resignation or removal.

**Thomas F. Ackerman**, age 48, joined us in 1988 with over eleven years of combined public accounting and international finance experience. He was named Controller, North America in 1992 and became our Vice President and Chief Financial Officer in 1996. In 1999, he was named a Senior Vice President. He is currently responsible for overseeing our Accounting and Finance Department, as well as our Information Technology Group. Prior to joining us, Mr. Ackerman was an accountant at Arthur Andersen & Co. Mr. Ackerman received a B.A. in Accounting from the University of Massachusetts and is a certified public accountant.

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**Christophe Berthoux**, age 41, joined us in 1991 as Sales and Marketing Director in France and became General Manager of our French operations in 1997. Mr. Berthoux became Vice President of our European operations in 1999, assuming our Southern Europe operations including Italy, Spain, France, and Belgium. In 2002, Mr. Berthoux was promoted to Corporate Vice President and, in addition to his European duties, assumed responsibility for Transgenic Services and Laboratory and Research Services worldwide. Mr. Berthoux received a DVM degree from Lyon Veterinary School in 1987 and an Executive MBA from Purdue University's Krannert Graduate School of Management in 1999.

**James C. Foster**, age 52, joined us in 1976 as General Counsel. Over the past 25 years, Mr. Foster has held various staff and managerial positions, and was named our President in 1991, Chief Executive Officer in 1992 and our Chairman in 2000. Mr. Foster received a B.A. from Lake Forest College, a M.S. from the Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a J.D. from Boston University School of Law.

**Jörg M. Geller**, age 48, joined us in 1986 as a production manager in our animal production facility in Germany and has had various management positions since then. In 1994, Mr. Geller became Vice President, Charles River Europe, responsible for our activities in Germany and Northern and Eastern Europe. In 1997, Mr. Geller assumed responsibility for our avian production unit (SPAFAS). Mr. Geller graduated from the veterinary school in Giessen and received his PhD. from the University of Hanover in 1984. He attended the Advanced Executive Program at the Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, in 1994.

**Nancy Gillett**, age 47, joined us in September 1999 with the acquisition of Sierra Biomedical. Dr. Gillett has 18 years of experience as an ACVP board certified pathologist and scientific manager. In 1999, she became Senior Vice President and General Manager of our Sierra Biomedical division with responsibilities for Sierra's ongoing business operations. In 2002, Dr. Gillett became interim Corporate Vice President of Discovery & Development Services and President & General Manager of Sierra Biomedical overseeing operations for our Argus Laboratories, PAI, Redfield Laboratories, Springborn Laboratories and Worcester Laboratories divisions. In 2003, Dr. Gillett became Corporate

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Vice President and General Manager of Drug Discovery and Development. Dr. Gillett received her D.V.M from Washington State University and her Ph.D. from the University of California, Davis.

**David P. Johst**, age 41, joined us in 1991 as Corporate Counsel and was named Vice President, Human Resources in 1995. He became Vice President, Human Resources and Administration in 1996, and a Senior Vice President in 1999. He is responsible for overseeing our Human Resources department, our contract staffing business unit and several other corporate staff departments. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Johst was a corporate associate at Boston's Hale and Dorr. Mr. Johst is a graduate of Dartmouth College, holds an M.B.A. from Northeastern University and received his J.D. from Harvard University Law School.

**Real H. Renaud**, age 55, joined us in 1964 and has 36 years of small animal production and related management experience. In 1986, Mr. Renaud became Vice President of Production, with responsibility for overseeing the Company's North American small animal operations, and was named Vice President, Worldwide Production in 1990. Mr. Renaud became Vice President and General Manager, European and North American Animal Operations in 1996, following a two-year European assignment during which he provided direct oversight to our European operations. In 1999, he became a Senior Vice President and in 2002, Mr. Renaud became Executive Vice President and General Manager, Worldwide Research Model Products and Services. Mr. Renaud attended Columbia University's executive education program, and has also studied at the Lyon Veterinary School and the Montreal Business School.

**Dennis R. Shaughnessy**, age 45, joined us in 1988 as Corporate Counsel and was named Vice President, Business Affairs in 1991. He became Vice President, Corporate Development and General Counsel in 1994 and is responsible for overseeing the Company's business development initiatives on a worldwide basis, as well as handling the Company's overall legal affairs. He became a Senior Vice President in 1999. Mr. Shaughnessy also serves as our Corporate Secretary. Prior to joining us, Mr. Shaughnessy was a corporate associate at Boston's Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault and previously served in government policy positions. Mr. Shaughnessy has a B.A. from The Pennsylvania State University, an M.S. from The University of Michigan, an M.B.A. from Northeastern University, and a J.D. from The University of Maryland School of Law.

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PART II

**Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity and Related Stockholder Matters**

Our common stock began trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) on June 23, 2000 under the symbol "CRL." The following table sets forth for the periods indicated below closing prices for our common stock, as reported on the NYSE Composite Tape.

2003	High	Low
First quarter (through March 14, 2003)	\$ 38.55	\$ 25.45
2002	High	Low
First quarter	\$ 33.48	\$ 27.90
Second quarter	38.89	27.80
Third quarter	39.60	29.90
Fourth quarter	40.98	36.55
2001	High	Low
First quarter	\$ 28.20	\$ 18.00
Second quarter	34.00	21.55
Third quarter	35.90	28.77
Fourth quarter	37.40	30.60

**Shareholders**

As of March 14, 2003, there were approximately 157 registered shareholders of the outstanding shares of common stock.

**Dividends**

We have not declared or paid any cash dividends on shares of our common stock in the past three years, except to our former parent companies, and we do not intend to pay cash dividends in the foreseeable future. We currently intend to retain any earnings to finance future operations and expansion.

**Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans**

The information required by Item 201(d) will be included in the 2003 Proxy Statement under the section captioned "Executive Compensation" and is incorporated herein by reference thereto.

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**Item 6. Selected Consolidated Financial Data**

The following table presents our selected consolidated financial data and other data as of and for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2002, December 29, 2001, December 30, 2000, December 25, 1999 and December 26, 1998. The Statement of Income Data and Other Data for the fiscal years ended December 28, 2002, December 29, 2001 and December 30, 2000 and the Balance Sheet Data at December 28, 2002 and December 29, 2001 have been derived from the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for such years, included elsewhere in this Form 10-K. The Statement of Income Data and Other Data for the fiscal years ended December 25, 1999 and December 26, 1998 and the Balance Sheet Data at December 20, 2000, December 25, 1999 and December 26, 1998 have been derived from the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for such years, not included in this Form 10-K. You should read the selected consolidated financial data contained in this table in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and our consolidated financial statements and the related notes.

Fiscal Year (1)				
2002	2001	2000	1999	1998
(dollars in thousands)				

Fiscal Year (1)

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**Statement of Income Data:**

Total net sales	\$	554,629	\$	465,630	\$	306,585
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