

MERCK & CO INC
Form DEFA14A
March 13, 2009

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

SCHEDULE 14A
Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
 Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
 Definitive Proxy Statement
 Definitive Additional Materials
 Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

Merck & Co., Inc.
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

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- (3) Filing Party:
- (4) Date Filed:

This filing consists of an email communication from Peter Kellogg, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Merck & Co., dated March 13, 2009.

March 13, 2009

Dear Colleagues,

Earlier this week, we announced our merger with Schering-Plough to create a new, stronger global healthcare leader uniquely positioned for success with a formidable research and development pipeline, a significantly broader portfolio of medicines and an expanded presence in key international markets.

Many of you may have questions about what this merger will mean for our function, and for your work. First of all, it's important to remember that we are still separate companies, and will remain so until the transaction closes later this year. We still need to deliver on our commitments and we still need to remain focused on our goals, including our efforts to support the successful on-time implementation of COMET in the U.S., FP&A Phase 1 globally, and global Hire-to-Retire.

In spite of this, there will be initiatives we slow down, delay, or no longer pursue to allow us to thoughtfully integrate our companies. I will share more information on this topic at our next Town Hall meeting. I encourage all of you to attend to hear more about what our combination with Schering-Plough will bring to our mission.

Mergers are exciting and challenging at the same time. Success is driven by attitudes, coordinated effort, and good planning. We will be prioritizing a rapid integration and focus so that we can quickly move forward as a single company that benefits from our combined capabilities, products, pipeline, and people.

Finally, I want to thank the individuals who directly worked on the analysis, financing, and reviews leading up to Monday's announcement. These teams have made a tremendous effort, and they deserve our sincerest gratitude.

I hope you share with me the same level of excitement and expectation about this combination. I am sure you are proud to be part of this significant milestone in the history of our company and will join me as we create a new, stronger healthcare leader.

Regards,
Peter

Forward-Looking Statements

This communication contains "forward-looking statements" as that term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based on Merck's and Schering-Plough's managements' current expectations and involve risks and uncertainties, which may cause results to differ materially from those set forth in the statements. The forward-looking statements may include statements regarding product development, product potential or financial performance. No forward-looking statement can be guaranteed, and actual results may differ materially from those projected. Merck and Schering-Plough undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Forward-looking statements in this communication should be evaluated together with the many uncertainties that affect either companies' business, particularly those mentioned in the risk factors and cautionary statements set forth in Item 1A of either companies' annual reports on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, in their respective quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and in their respective current reports on Form 8-K, including, the current report on Form 8-K filed by Merck on March 10, 2009, each of which is incorporated by reference.

These reports are available at www.merck.com and www.schering-plough.com.

Additional Information

In connection with the proposed transaction, Schering-Plough will file a registration statement, including a joint proxy statement of Merck and Schering-Plough, with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). Investors are urged to read the registration statement and joint proxy statement (including all amendments and supplements to it) because they will contain important information. Investors may obtain free copies of the registration statement and joint proxy statement when they become available, as well as other filings containing information about Merck and Schering-Plough, without charge, at the SEC's Internet web site (www.sec.gov). These documents may also be obtained for free from Schering-Plough's Investor Relations web site (www.schering-plough.com) or by directing a request to Schering-Plough's Investor Relations at (908) 298-7436. Copies of Merck's filings may be obtained for free from Merck's Investor Relations Web Site (www.merck.com) or by directing a request to Merck at Merck's Office of the Secretary, (908) 423-1000.

Merck and Schering-Plough and their respective directors and executive officers and other members of management and employees are potential participants in the solicitation of proxies from Merck and Schering-Plough shareholders in respect of the proposed transaction.

Information regarding Schering-Plough's directors and executive officers is available in Schering-Plough's proxy statement for its 2008 annual meeting of shareholders, filed with the SEC on April 23, 2008, and information regarding Merck's directors and executive officers is available in Merck's proxy statement for its 2009 annual meeting of stockholders, filed with the SEC on March 13, 2009. Additional information regarding the interests of such potential participants in the proposed transaction will be included in the registration statement and joint proxy statement filed with the SEC in connection with the proposed transaction.

Forward-Looking Statements

This communication includes “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements may include, but are not limited to, statements about the benefits of the proposed merger between Merck and Schering-Plough, including future financial and operating results, the combined company’s plans, objectives, expectations and intentions and other statements that are not historical facts. Such statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of Merck’s and Schering-Plough’s management and are subject to significant risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ from those set forth in the forward-looking statements.

The following factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ from those set forth in the forward-looking statements: the possibility that the expected synergies from the proposed merger of Merck and Schering-Plough will not be realized, or will not be realized within the expected time period, due to, among other things, the impact of pharmaceutical industry regulation and pending legislation that could affect the pharmaceutical industry; the ability to obtain governmental and self-regulatory organization approvals of the merger on the proposed terms and schedule; the actual terms of the financing required for the merger and/or the failure to obtain such financing; the failure of Schering-Plough or Merck stockholders to approve the merger; the risk that the businesses will not be integrated successfully; disruption from the merger making it more difficult to maintain business and operational relationships; the possibility that the merger does not close, including, but not limited to, due to the failure to satisfy the closing conditions; Merck’s and Schering-Plough’s ability to accurately predict future market conditions; dependence on the effectiveness of Merck’s and Schering-Plough’s patents and other protections for innovative products; the risk of new and changing regulation and health policies in the U.S. and internationally and the exposure to litigation and/or regulatory actions. Merck and Schering-Plough undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Additional factors that could cause results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements can be found in Merck’s 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K, Schering-Plough’s 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K and each company’s other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) available at the SEC’s Internet site (www.sec.gov).

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