ARTISAN PARTNERS LTD PARTNERSHIP

Form SC 13G January 23, 2004

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

SCHEDULE 13G							
Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934							
(Amendment No.) *							
Veritas DGC Inc.							
(Name of Issuer)							
Common Stock							
(Title of Class of Securities)							
92343P107							
(CUSIP Number)							
December 31, 2003							
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)							
Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:							
<pre>[x] Rule 13d-1(b) [] Rule 13d-1(c) [] Rule 13d-1(d)</pre>							
*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.							
The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the							

13G

CUSIP No. 92343P107

Notes).

¹ NAME OF REPORTING PERSON / I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

	Artisa	n Pai	rtners Limited Partnership						
	ECK THE ee Inst		ROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP						
	(a)	[]						
	(b)	[]						
3 SE	C USE O	NLY							
4 CI	TIZENSH	IP OF	R PLACE OF ORGANIZATION						
	Delawa	re							
		5	SOLE VOTING POWER						
NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING			None						
		6	SHARED VOTING POWER						
			2,097,700						
WIT	SON H	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER						
			None						
		8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER						
			2,097,700						
9 AG	GREGATE	AMOU	JNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON						
	2,097,	700							
SH	10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (see Instructions)								
	Not Applicable								
11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)									
	6.2%								
	12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (see Instructions)								
	IA								
CUSIP N	o. 9 -	23431	13G P107						

NAME OF REPORTING PERSON / S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON Artisan Investment Corporation ______ CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (see Instructions) (a) [] Not Applicable (b) [] SEC USE ONLY 4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Wisconsin 5 SOLE VOTING POWER None NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER OWNED BY 2,097,700 EACH REPORTING PERSON _____ WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER None 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 2,097,700 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 2,097,700 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (see Instructions) Not Applicable 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) ._____ 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (see Instructions) CO ______

NAME OF REPORTING PERSON / S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON Andrew A. Ziegler ______ CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (see Instructions) (a) [] Not Applicable (b) [] _____ SEC USE ONLY CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION U.S.A. 5 SOLE VOTING POWER None NUMBER OF SHARES ______ BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER OWNED BY EACH 2,097,700 REPORTING PERSON ______ WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER None _____ 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 2,097,700 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 2,097,700 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (see Instructions) Not Applicable 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 6.2% -----12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (see Instructions) ______

13G CUSIP No. 92343P107 _____ .-----1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON / S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON Carlene Murphy Ziegler CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (see Instructions) (a) [] Not Applicable (b) [] SEC USE ONLY CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION U.S.A. 5 SOLE VOTING POWER None NUMBER OF ______ BENEFICIALLY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER OWNED BY 2,097,700 EACH REPORTING PERSON ______ 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER WITH None _____ 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 2,097,700 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

2,097,700

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN (see Instructions)

Not Applicable

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

6.28

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (see Instructions)

•	r Filing: ARTISAN PARTNERS LTD PARTNERSHIP - Form SC 13G
IN	
Item 1(a)	Name of Issuer:
	Veritas DGC Inc.
Item 1(b)	Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:
	10300 Town Park Houston, TX 77072
Item 2(a)	Name of Person Filing:
	Artisan Partners Limited Partnership ("Artisan Partners") Artisan Investment Corporation, the general partner of Artisan Partners ("Artisan Corp.") Andrew A. Ziegler Carlene Murphy Ziegler
Item 2(b)	Address of Principal Business Office:
	Artisan Partners, Artisan Corp., Mr. Ziegler and Ms. Ziegler are all located at:
	875 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 800 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
Item 2(c)	Citizenship:
	Artisan Partners is a Delaware limited partnership Artisan Corp. is a Wisconsin corporation Mr. Ziegler and Ms. Ziegler are U.S. citizens
Item 2(d)	Title of Class of Securities:
	Common Stock
Item 2(e)	CUSIP Number:
	92343P107

(e) Artisan Partners is an investment adviser registered under section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of

Type of Person:

Item 3

1940; Artisan Corp. is the General Partner of Artisan Partners; Mr. Ziegler and Ms. Ziegler are the principal

stockholders of Artisan Corp.

Item 4	Ownership (at December 31, 2003):
	(a) Amount owned "beneficially" within the meaning of rule 13d-3:
	2,097,700
	(b) Percent of class:
	6.2% (based on 33,727,077 shares outstanding as of November 30, 2003)
	(c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
	 (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: None (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 2,097,700 (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: None (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct disposition of: 2,097,700
Item 5	Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:
	Not Applicable
Item 6	Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person:
	The shares reported herein have been acquired on behalf of discretionary clients of Artisan Partners. Persons other than Artisan Partners are entitled to receive all dividends from, and proceeds from the sale of, those shares. None of those persons, to the knowledge of Artisan Partners, Artisan Corp., Mr. Ziegler or Ms. Ziegler, has an economic interest in more than 5% of the class.
Item 7	Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company or Control Person:
	Not Applicable
Item 8	Identification and Classification of Members of the Group:
	Not Applicable
Item 9	Notice of Dissolution of Group:
	Not Applicable

Item 10 Certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, ${\tt I}$ certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: January 23, 2004

ARTISAN INVESTMENT CORPORATION for itself and as general partner of ARTISAN PARTNERS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

Janet D. Olsen*

ANDREW A. ZIEGLER

Andrew A. Ziegler*

CARLENE MURPHY ZIEGLER

Carlene Murphy Ziegler*

*By: /s/ Janet D. Olsen

Janet D. Olsen Vice President of Artisan Investment Corporation Attorney-in-Fact for Andrew A. Ziegler Attorney-in-Fact for Carlene Murphy Ziegler

Exhibit Index

Exhibit 1 Joint Filing Agreement dated as of January 23, 2004 by and among Artisan Partners Limited Partnership, Artisan Investment Corporation, Andrew A. Ziegler, and Carlene

Murphy Ziegler

Exhibit 2	Power	of	Attorney	of	Andrew	Α.	Ziegler	dated	as	of
	April	2,	2002							

Power of Attorney of Carlene M. Ziegler dated as of April 2, 2002 $\,$ Exhibit 3