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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): January 15, 2002

THE COOPER COMPANIES, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

1-8597
(Commission File Number)

94-2657368
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

6140 Stoneridge Mall Road, Suite 590, Pleasanton, California 94588
(Address of principal executive offices)

(925) 460-3600
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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ITEM 5. Other Events.

On January 15, 2002, The Cooper Companies, Inc. issued a press release announcing it has signed a definitive agreement to purchase Biocompatibles Eyecare, Inc. This release is filed as an exhibit hereto and is incorporated herein by reference.

Any Internet addresses provided in the press release filed herewith are for information purposes only and are not intended to be hyperlinks. Accordingly, no information in any of these Internet addresses is included herein.

ITEM 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

Exhibit

No. -----	Description -----
99.1	Press Release dated January 15, 2002 of The Cooper Companies, Inc.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

THE COOPER COMPANIES, INC.

By /s/ Stephen C. Whiteford

Stephen C. Whiteford
Vice President and
Corporate Controller
(Principal Accounting Officer)

Dated: January 22, 2002

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No. -----	Description -----	Sequentially Numbered Page -----
99.1	Press Release dated January 15, 2002 of The Cooper Companies, Inc.	

STATEMENT OF DIFFERENCES

The trademark symbol shall be expressed as.....'TM'
The registered trademark symbol shall be expressed as.....'r'

[Logo of The Cooper Companies, Inc.]

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COOPER COMPANIES' UNIT TO ACQUIRE BIOCOMPATIBLES EYE CARE BUSINESS

LAKE FOREST, Calif., January 15, 2002-- The Cooper Companies, Inc (NYSE: COO) announced today that its CooperVision unit has signed a definitive agreement to purchase Biocompatibles Eyecare, Inc., the contact lens business of Biocompatibles International plc (LSE: BII). The total purchase price will be (pound)68 million.

The acquisition is subject to the approval of the shareholders of BII and customary closing conditions. The transaction is expected to close before April 1, 2002.

Cooper expects that the acquisition will be accretive to earnings per share by the end of its first 12 months and significantly accretive to its results in 2003.

Commenting on the acquisition, A. Thomas Bender, Cooper's chief executive officer said, "The Biocompatibles Eye Care business brings CooperVision three strategic benefits. First, the Proclear('r') family of soft contact lenses complements our strategy of growing our market share in the United States by entering profitable specialty segments of the contact lens market. Second, Biocompatibles Eye Care will add critical infrastructure to support our rapidly growing business outside the U.S., particularly in Europe as well as in Hong Kong, South Africa and Australia. Third, it gives us access to certain extended wear lens technologies that longer term could allow us to enter this market segment with our own proprietary product designs."

Biocompatibles Eye Care, the world's sixth largest contact lens manufacturer, had worldwide revenue in 2001 of about \$70 million. About 70 percent of its sales are outside the United States. The Proclear product line accounts for about 45 percent of the division's worldwide revenues.

Conference Call

Cooper will hold a conference call to review the Biocompatibles Eyecare acquisition at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on Tuesday, January 15, 2002. To access the live call, dial 1-800-946-0706. A replay will be

available approximately one hour after the call and remain available for five days. The access code for both calls is 721298. The call will also be broadcast live on the Cooper Companies' Web site, www.coopercos.com and at www.bestcalls.com and www.streetevents.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

Some of the information included in this news release contains "forward-looking statements" as defined by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The forward-looking statements include certain statements pertaining to our capital resources, performance and results of operations. In addition, all statements regarding anticipated growth in our revenue, and anticipated market conditions and results of operations are forward-looking statements. To identify forward-looking statements look for words like "believes," "expects," "may," "will," "should," "seeks," "intends," "plans," "estimates" or "anticipates" and similar words or phrases. Discussions of strategy, plans or intentions often contain forward-looking statements. These, and all forward-looking statements, necessarily depend on assumptions, data or methods that may be incorrect or imprecise.

Events, among others, that could cause actual results and future actions to

differ materially from those described by or contemplated in forward-looking statements include major changes in business conditions, a major disruption in the operations of our manufacturing facilities, new competitors or technologies, the impact of an undetected virus on our computer systems, acquisition integration delays or costs, foreign currency exchange exposure, investments in research and development and other start-up projects, dilution to earnings per share from acquisitions or issuing stock, regulatory issues, changes in tax laws, significant environmental cleanup costs above those already accrued, litigation costs including any related settlements, cost of business divestitures, the requirement to provide for a significant liability or to write off a significant asset, changes in accounting principles or estimates, and other factors described in our Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including the "Business" section in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended October 31, 2000. We caution investors that forward looking statements reflect our analysis only on their stated date. We disclaim any intent to update them except as required by law.

Corporate Information

The Cooper Companies, Inc. and its subsidiaries develop, manufacture and market specialty healthcare products. CooperVision, Inc., headquartered in Lake Forest, Calif., with manufacturing facilities in Huntington Beach, Calif., Rochester, N.Y., Toronto, and Hamble, England, markets a broad range of contact lenses for the vision care market. Its Web site is www.coopervision.com. CooperSurgical, Inc., headquartered in Trumbull, Conn., markets diagnostic products, surgical instruments and accessories for the gynecological market. Its Web site is www.coopersurgical.com. The Company's corporate offices are located in Lake Forest and Pleasanton, Calif. A toll free interactive telephone system at 1-800-334-1986 provides stock quotes, recent press releases and financial data. The Cooper Companies Web address is www.coopercos.com.

Biocompatibles is an international medical device company with three divisions, Cardiovascular, Eye Care and Drug Delivery, using a unique technology based on Phosphorylcholine ("PC"). PC Technology('TM') reduces the body's response to medical devices. PC is a chemical copy of part of the outer layer of a human cell membrane

and is a synthetic polymer that can be coated onto medical devices or formed into products like contact lenses. Established in 1984, the Company was floated on the London Stock Exchange in 1995. It is headquartered in the United Kingdom (in Farnham, Surrey), with manufacturing facilities in the United Kingdom (Farnborough), United States (Norfolk, Virginia), Ireland (Galway), Australia (Adelaide), Spain (Madrid) and Germany (Bruckmuhl). Further information, news releases and glossary are available on the company's website at www.biocompatibles.co.uk.

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