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BUTLER MANUFACTURING CO  
Form DEFA14A  
April 16, 2004

OMB APPROVAL

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OMB Number: 3235-0059  
Expires: February 28, 2006  
Estimated average burden  
hours per response...12.75

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

SCHEDULE 14A  
(RULE 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT  
SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities  
Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant [X]  
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 Section 240.14a-12

BUTLER MANUFACTURING COMPANY

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(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

Payment of Filing Fee (check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

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3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed  
pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the  
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4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

1) Amount Previously Paid:

2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

3) Filing Party:

4) Date Filed:

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SEC 1913 (02-02)

The following press release was issued by Butler Manufacturing Company on April 16, 2004:

BUTLER MANUFACTURING COMPANY EXPECTS TO MEET

FINANCIAL TESTS UNDER BLUESCOPE MERGER AGREEMENT

KANSAS CITY, MO, April 16, 2004 -- Butler Manufacturing Company ("Butler") [NYSE:BBR] announced today that it expects to meet the financial milestones established in the Agreement and Plan of Merger with BlueScope Steel Limited ("BlueScope") for the quarter ended March 31, 2004.

As previously announced and described in the proxy statement mailed to Butler stockholders on March 26, 2004, Butler has entered into a merger agreement with BlueScope whereby Butler stockholders would be entitled to receive \$22.50 per share in cash. A special meeting of Butler stockholders is scheduled on April 27, 2004 to vote on the proposed merger with BlueScope.

As a condition to BlueScope's obligation to consummate the merger, no Material Adverse Change ("MAC") may have occurred with respect to Butler since February 15, 2004. Included in the definition of MAC are failures by Butler to meet certain thresholds for consolidated earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) and net cash flow for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 and consolidated

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backlog as of March 31, 2004. Butler believes that its operating results exceed the established thresholds such that no MAC will have occurred with respect to these financial milestones.

The Board continues to recommend that Butler stockholders vote for approval and adoption of the BlueScope merger agreement.

Butler Manufacturing Company is the world's leading producer of pre-engineered building systems, a leading supplier of architectural aluminum systems and components, and provides construction and real estate services for the nonresidential construction market.

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Statements in this press release concerning the company's business outlook or future economic performance; anticipated profitability, revenues, expenses or other financial items, together with other statements that are not historical facts, are "forward-looking statements" as that term is defined under the Federal Securities Laws. Forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those stated in such statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, industry cyclicality, fluctuations in customer demand and order pattern, the seasonal nature of the business, changes in pricing or other actions by competitors, and general economic conditions, as well as other risks detailed in the company's 2003 Annual Report to the Securities and Exchange Commission on page 4.