LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INC Form SC 13G April 14, 2004

OMB APPROVAL

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United States SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. _)*

LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED		
(Name of Issuer)		
Common Stock, \$.001 par value		
(Title of Class of Securities)		
53220K207		
(CUSIP Number)		
April 6, 2004		
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing This Statement)		
Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:		

*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.

[] [X]

[]

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 Notes).

Rule 13d-1(b)

Rule 13d-1(c)

Rule 13d-1(d)

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CUSIP N	No. <u>53220K207</u>					
1.	Nam	e(s) o	f Reporting Persons:	BB Biotech AG		
			ntification Nos. of above ntities only):			
	perse	nis (c	-	N/A		
2.	Chec	k the	Appropriate Box if a Member	r of a Group (See Instructions):		
	(a)	[X]				
	(b)	[]				
3.	SEC	Use (Only:			
4.	4. Citizenship or Place of Organization: Switzerland					
Number Shares Benefici		5.	Sole Voting Power:	0		
Owned b Each Reportin	ıg	6.	Shared Voting Power:	3,700,000		
Person w	vith	7.	Sole Dispositive Power:	0		
		8.	Shared Dispositive Power:	3,700,000		
9.	Aggr by E	egate ach R	Amount Beneficially Owned eporting Person:	3,700,000		
10.	O. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares []					
11.		ent of ow (9)	Class Represented by Amour	5.04%		
12.		of R	eporting Person (See	нс,со		

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CUSIP No. <u>53220K207</u>		53220K207	_	
I.I		Name(s) of Reporting Persons: I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only):		Biotech Invest N.V. N/A
2.	Che	ck the	e Appropriate Box if a Member of	f a Group (See Instructions):
	(a)	[X]		
	(b)	[]		
3.	SEC	C Use	Only:	
4.	Citi	zensh	ip or Place of Organization:	Netherlands Antilles
Number Shares Beneficia		5.	Sole Voting Power:	0
Owned b Each Reportin	g	6.	Shared Voting Power:	3,700,000
Person w	/1un	7.	Sole Dispositive Power:	0
		8.	Shared Dispositive Power:	3,700,000
9.			e Amount Beneficially Owned Reporting Person:	3,700,000
10.	Che		the Aggregate Amount in Row (9	Excludes Certain
11.		cent o	f Class Represented by Amount)):	5.04%
12.				CO

Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions):

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Item 1	
1(a)	Names of Issue: Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated
1(b) Item 2	Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices: <u>10275 Science Center Drive, San Diego, CA 92121</u>
2(a)	Names of Person Filing: <u>BB Biotech AG (BB Biotech), on behalf of Biotech Invest N.V. (BioInvest), its wholly-o</u> wned subsidiary and record owner of the securities.
2(b)	Address of Principal Business Office or, if none, Residence:
	BB Biotech AG: Vordergasse 3, CH-8200 Schaffhausen, Switzerland
	Biotech Invest N.V.: De Ruyterkade 62, Willemstad, Curacao, Netherlands Antilles
2(c)	Citizenship: Switzerland
2(d)	Title of Class of Securities Common Stock, \$.001 par value
2(e)	CUSIP Number 53220K207
Item 3	
	ement is filed pursuant to §240.13d-1(b) or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:
a. []	Broker or Dealer registered under section 15 of the Act.
b. []	Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the Act.
c. []	Insurance company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of the Act.
d. []	Investment company registered under section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940.
e. []	An investment adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
f. []	An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
g. []	A parent holding company or control person in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);
h. []	A savings associations as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);
i. []	A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940;
j. []	Group, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).
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Item 4.	Ownership				
Provide	e the foll	owing information regarding the a	ggregate number and percentage of the class of	of securities of the issuer identified in Item 1.	
(a)	Amour	nt beneficially owned:	3,700,000		
(b)	Percen	t of class:	5.04%		
(c)	Numbe	er of shares as to which the person	has:		
	(i)	Sole power to vote or to direct th	e vote	0	
	(ii)	Shared power to vote or to direct	the vote	3,700,000	
	(iii)	Sole power to dispose or to direc	t the disposition of	0	
	(iv)	Shared power to dispose or to dir	rect the disposition of	3,700,000	
Item 5.	Owner	rship of Five Percent or Less of a	Class		
Item 6.	em 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.				
Item 7.	Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company or Control Person. This statement is filed jointly by BB Biotech and BioInvest. BioInvest is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BB Biotech.				
Item 8.	Identification and Classification of Members of the Group				
			NA		
Item 9.	Notice	of Dissolution of Group			
			NA		

Item 10. Certification

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above 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.

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SIGNATURES

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

BB Biotech AG

Date:	April 13, 2004	By:	/s/ Roland Maier
			Signatory Authority
		Name:	Roland Maier
		Title:	Signatory Authority
Date:	April 13, 2004	By:	/s/ Adrian Bruengger
			Signatory Authority
		Name:	Adrian Bruengger
		Title:	Signatory Authority
		Bi	otech Invest N.V.
Date:	April 13, 2004	Ву:	/s/ Roland Maier
			Signatory Authority
		Name:	Roland Maier
		Title:	Signatory Authority

Date:	April 13, 2004	By:	/s/ Adrian Bruengger
			Signatory Authority
		Name:	Adrian Bruengger
		Title:	Signatory Authority
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Exhibit A

Joint Filing Statement

Pursuant to Rule 13d-1(f)(1), we, the undersigned, hereby express our agreement that the attached Schedule 13G (including all amendments thereto) is filed on behalf of each of the undersigned.

BB Biotech AG

Date:	April 13, 2004	By:	/s/ Roland Maier
			Signatory Authority
		Name:	Roland Maier
		Title:	Signatory Authority
Date:	April 13, 2004	By:	/s/ Adrian Bruengger
			Signatory Authority
		Name:	Adrian Bruengger
		Title:	Signatory Authority
		_	
		Bi	iotech Invest N.V.
Date:	April 13, 2004	By:	/s/ Roland Maier
			Signatory Authority
		Name:	Roland Maier
		Title:	Signatory Authority

Date:	April 13, 2004	Ву:	/s/ Adrian Bruengger
			Signatory Authority
		Name:	Adrian Bruengger
		Title:	Signatory Authority

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