

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

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
(Amendment No.)

L.B. Foster Co.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock

(Title of Class of Securities)

350060109

(CUSIP Number)

September 30, 1999

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)
 Rule 13d-1(c)
 Rule 13d-1(d)

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 Notes).

CUSIP No. 350060109 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON
Artisan Partners Limited Partnership 39-1807188

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP

Not Applicable

(a) []
(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER
None

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY 6 SHARED VOTING POWER
1,125,300

EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER None
	8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,125,300

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
1,125,300

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN
SHARES
Not Applicable

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
11.74%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON
IA

SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON
Artisan Investment Corporation

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP

Not Applicable

(a) []
(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
Wisconsin

5 SOLE VOTING POWER
None

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY
EACH

6 SHARED VOTING POWER
1,125,300

REPORTING
PERSON
WITH

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
1,125,300

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
1,125,300

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

Not Applicable

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
11.74%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON
CO

SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP No. 350060109

13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON
Andrew A. Ziegler

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP

Not Applicable

(a) []
(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
U.S.A.

5 SOLE VOTING POWER
None

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY

6 SHARED VOTING POWER
1,125,300

EACH
REPORTING
PERSON

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
None

WITH

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
1,125,300

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
1,125,300

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

Not Applicable

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
11.74%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON
IN

SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP No. 350060109

13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. or I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON
Carlene Murphy Ziegler

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP

Not Applicable

(a) []
(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
U.S.A.

5 SOLE VOTING POWER
None

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY

6 SHARED VOTING POWER
1,125,300

EACH
REPORTING
PERSON

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
None

WITH

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
1,125,300

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
1,125,300

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

Not Applicable

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
11.74%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON
IN

SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

Item 1(a) Name of Issuer:
L.B. Foster Co.

Item 1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:
415 Holiday Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15220

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:
1000 North Water Street, #1770
Milwaukee, WI 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:
350060109

Item 3 Type of Person:
(e) Artisan Partners is an Investment Adviser registered
under section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 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 9, 1999):
- (a) Amount owned "beneficially" within the meaning of rule 13d-3:
1,125,300 shares
 - (b) Percent of class:
11.74% (based on 9,586,040 shares outstanding on November 30, 1999)
 - (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:
1,125,300
 - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: None
 - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct disposition of: 1,125,300

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 investment advisory clients of Artisan Partners over the accounts of which Artisan Partners has discretionary authority. Persons other than Artisan Partners are entitled to receive all dividends from, and proceeds from the sale of, those shares.

Item 7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company:
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 in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purpose or effect.

Signature

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

Date: December 13, 1999

The undersigned corporation, on the date above written, agrees and consents to the joint filing on its behalf of this Schedule 13G in connection with its beneficial ownership of the security reported herein.

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

By: /s/ Lawrence Totsky

Lawrence A. Totsky
Chief Financial Officer

The undersigned individuals, on the date above written, agree and consent to the joint filing on their behalf of this Schedule 13G in connection with their beneficial ownership of the security reported herein.

ANDREW A. ZIEGLER

/s/ Andrew A. Ziegler

CARLENE MURPHY ZIEGLER

/s/ Carlene Murphy Ziegler
