UNITED STATES OF AMERICA before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Release No. 54303 / August 11, 2006

ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING ENFORCEMENT Release No. 2474 / August 11, 2006

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-12391

In the Matter of

: PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO RULE

JOSEPH A. ROUGRAFF, CPA, : 102(e) OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES OF

PRACTICE, MAKING FINDINGS, AND IMPOSING REMEDIAL SANCTIONS

ORDER INSTITUTING ADMINISTRATIVE

Respondent.

: : :

I.

The Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") deems it appropriate and in the public interest that public administrative proceedings be, and hereby are, instituted against Joseph A. Rougraff ("Respondent" or "Rougraff") pursuant to Rule 102(e)(3)(i) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.¹

II.

In anticipation of the institution of these proceedings, Respondent has submitted an Offer of Settlement (the "Offer") which the Commission has determined to accept. Solely for the purpose of these proceedings and any other proceedings brought by or on behalf of the Commission, or to which the Commission is a party, and without admitting or denying the findings herein, except as to the Commission's jurisdiction over him and the subject matter of these

The Commission, with due regard to the public interest and without preliminary hearing, may, by order, . . . suspend from appearing or practicing before it any . . . accountant . . . who has been by name . . . permanently enjoined by any court of competent jurisdiction, by reason of his or her misconduct in an action brought by the Commission, from violating or aiding and abetting the violation of any provision of the Federal securities laws or of the rules and regulations thereunder.

¹ Rule 102(e)(3)(i) provides, in relevant part, that:

proceedings, and the findings contained in Section III. 3. below, which are admitted, Respondent consents to the entry of this Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings Pursuant to Rule 102(e) of the Commission's Rules of Practice, Making Findings, and Imposing Remedial Sanctions ("Order"), as set forth below.

III.

On the basis of this Order and Respondent's Offer, the Commission finds that:

- 1. Rougraff, age 47, is a CPA licensed in the State of Indiana. He served as vice president, CFO, and corporate secretary of Virbac Corporation ("Virbac") from May 2000 until he resigned effective January 27, 2004.
- 2. Virbac, a Delaware corporation headquartered in Fort Worth, Texas, is the result of the March 1999 acquisition of Agri-Nutrition Group Limited ("AGNU"), a publicly-held company, by Virbac Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Virbac S.A., a French veterinary pharmaceutical manufacturer. Virbac is a manufacturer and distributor of animal health products. Virbac's common stock is registered with the Commission under Section 12(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") and trades in the Pink Sheets under the symbol "VBAC" since it was delisted from the NASDAQ National Market on January 23, 2004 for Virbac's failure to file timely its periodic reports.
- 3. On August 4, 2006, a final judgment was entered against Rougraff, permanently enjoining him from future violations of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 and Sections 10(b) and 13(b)(5) of the Exchange Act and Rules 10b-5, 13a-14, 13b2-1 and 13b2-2 thereunder, and aiding and abetting violations of Sections 13(a), 13(b)(2)(A) and 13(b)(2)(B) of the Exchange Act and Rules 12b-20, 13a-1 and 13a-13 thereunder, and imposing an officer and director bar in the civil action entitled Securities and Exchange Commission v. Virbac Corp., et. al, Civil Action Number 4:06-CV-0453-A, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas. Rougraff was also ordered to pay \$26,668 in disgorgement and \$5,656 in prejudgment interest, and a \$100,000 civil money penalty.
- 4. The Commission's complaint alleged, among other things, that from December 2000 to November 2003, Virbac engaged in a revenue inflation and expense deferral scheme and that Rougraff participated in the scheme. According to the complaint, the scheme involved the improper recognition of revenue by means of channel-stuffing, or "loading" of product to distributors, by recording revenue from sham transactions, and by recording revenue from transactions occurring after period-end. The Commission also alleges in the complaint that, as a result of the scheme, Virbac met unrealistic revenue and earnings projections and managed to sustain the illusion of rapid growth—by fraudulently inflating its revenues and net income by as much as 9% and 694%, respectively and that, in the process, Virbac failed to comply with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP"). The Commission further alleges that Rougraff failed to cause Virbac to record appropriate reserves and accruals to overstate earnings; that in furtherance of the scheme, Virbac personnel falsely documented terms of transactions on invoices and other underlying documents; and that the true terms were established in side

arrangements, per conversations and e-mails, which Rougraff and others failed to disclose to Virbac's auditors.

IV.

In view of the foregoing, the Commission deems it appropriate and in the public interest to impose the sanction agreed to in Respondent Rougraff's Offer.

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED, effective immediately, that Rougraff is suspended from appearing or practicing before the Commission as an accountant.

By the Commission.

Nancy M. Morris Secretary