#### IN THE MATTER OF

#### NATURE'S BOUNTY, INC., ET AL.

CONSENT ORDER, ETC., IN REGARD TO ALLEGED VIOLATION OF SECS. 5 AND 12 OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION ACT

Docket C-3593. Complaint, July 21, 1995--Decision, July 21, 1995

This consent order requires, among other things, the New York-based company and two of its wholly-owned subsidiaries to pay \$250,000 to the Commission for possible use for consumer redress, and requires them to have substantiation for specific health-related representations they make in advertising and promoting any product in the future.

#### **Appearances**

For the Commission: Justin Dingfelder, Peter Metrinko, Rose Toufexis and Jonathan Cowen.

For the respondents: *Michael F. Brockmeyer, Piper & Marbury,* Baltimore, MD.

#### **COMPLAINT**

The Federal Trade Commission, having reason to believe that Nature's Bounty, Inc., a corporation, Puritan's Pride, Inc., a corporation, and Vitamin World, Inc., a corporation, ("respondents"), have violated Sections 5(a) and 12 of the Federal Trade Commission Act ("FTC Act"), 15 U.S.C. 45(a) and 52, and it appearing to the Commission that a proceeding by it in respect thereof would be in the public interest, alleges:

PARAGRAPH 1. A. Respondent Nature's Bounty, Inc. ("Nature's Bounty"), is a Delaware corporation, with its office and principal place of business at 90 Orville Dr., Bohemia, NY.

- B. Respondent Puritan's Pride, Inc. ("Puritan's Pride"), is a Delaware corporation with its office and principal place of business at 90 Orville Dr., Bohemia, NY. Puritan's Pride is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Nature's Bounty.
- C. Respondent Vitamin World, Inc. ("Vitamin World"), is a Delaware corporation with its office and principal place of business

- at 90 Orville Dr., Bohemia, NY. Vitamin World is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Nature's Bounty.
- D. Nature's Bounty directs or controls its subsidiaries Puritan's Pride and Vitamin World in carrying out the acts and practices alleged in this complaint.
- PAR. 2. Respondents have manufactured, advertised, offered for sale, sold or distributed a variety of products, including "Sleeper's Diet," "L-Arginine 500 mg. tablets," "L-Ornithine 500 mg. tablets," "Prostex," "L-Cysteine," "L-Lysine," "L-Methionine," "Octacosanol," "New Zealand Green Lipped Mussel Extract," "KLB6," "Glucomannan," "Sugar Blocker," "Spirulina 500 mg. tablets," "Eye-Vites" (also sold as CATA-RX), "KLB6 Grapefruit Diet," "Herbal Cellulex Formula," "Memory Booster," "Ginsana," "Fatbuster Diet Tea," "Shake-A-Weigh," "Dark Circle Eye Treatment," "Natural Sterol Complex," "Super Fat Burners," "Super Cut," "Papaya Enzyme Tablets," and "Calmtabs." Each of these products is a "food" and/or "drug" within the meaning of Sections 12 and 15 of the FTC Act.
- PAR. 3. The acts and practices of respondents alleged in this complaint have been in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in Section 4 of the FTC Act.
- PAR. 4. Respondents have disseminated or have caused to be disseminated advertisements and promotional materials for the products referred to in paragraph two, including, but not necessarily limited to, the attached Exhibits ("Ex.") A-R. These advertisements contain the following statements:
- A. In regard to Sleeper's Diet: "SLEEPER'S DIET . . . Based on a popular weight loss program. Dieters will be interested in this special combination of amino acids." (Ex. A)
- B. In regard to L-Arginine: (1) "L-Arginine stimulates the release of HGH (human growth hormone). HGH... promotes the formation of DNA and RNA needed to increase muscle mass and decrease body fat." (Ex. B) (2) "L-ARGININE... stimulates the release of growth hormone... [I]ncreases muscle mass while decreasing the amount of body fat." (Ex. C)
- C. In regard to L-Ornithine: (1) "L-ORNITHINE . . . As with L-Arginine this amino acid releases HGH. However, L-Ornithine is said to be twice as effective." (Ex. B) (2) "L-ORNITHINE stimulates the release of growth hormone which increases muscle mass while decreasing the amount of body fat." (Ex. C)
- D. In regard to Prostex: "PROSTEX Can Help You! If you are over 50 years of age and Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy is causing these discomforts: Frequent urination. Painful Urination. Urgency to urinate. Dribbling. Distended bladder due

to incomplete emptying. Sleepless nights caused by night time urination. Developed by a doctor - Prostex is a scientific combination of 3 pure amino acids in capsule form. It is safe, natural and effective . . . to relieve the symptoms of Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy." (Ex. D)

- E. In regard to L-Cysteine: (1) "L-CYSTEINE found to increase hair growth by as much as 100%." (Ex. C)(2) "[E]ffective in preventing not only hangovers but brain and liver damage from alcohol." (Ex. C) (3)[H]elps prevent damages from the ill effects of cigarette smoke." (Ex. C)
- F. In regard to L-Lysine: "L-LYSINE . . . produces L-Carnitine which improves stress tolerance . . . and has an anti-fatigue effect." (Ex. C)
- G. In regard to L-Methionine: "L-METHIONINE . . . helps prevent premature hair loss." (Ex. C)
- H. In regard to Octacosanol: "Increase Stamina, Vigor and Endurance. OCTACOSANOL... In fact, a recent study at the University of Illinois has shown that Octacosanol may speed reaction time, lower cholesterol levels and strengthen muscles (including the heart)." (Ex. D)
- I. In regard to New Zealand Green Lipped Mussel Extract: "NEW ZEALAND GREEN LIPPED MUSSEL EXTRACT. It has been shown in recent studies that Green Lipped Mussel not only relieves the symptoms of arthritis, but works on the cause. For relief of one of the most painful and discomforting ailments, try Puritan's Pride Green Lipped Mussel today!" (Ex. E)
- J. In regard to KLB6: "Losing weight is easy the KLB6 way. The original natural fat fighting plan that helps put you in shape. KLB6 Kelp, Lecithin, Vitamin B-6 and Cider Vinegar, all-in-one capsule. KELP a natural food rich in iodine. It works to maintain a healthy thyroid. And, of course, a sluggish metabolism is an enemy to anyone wishing to shed a few pounds. LECITHIN . . . is of special interest if you're concerned about weight reduction. It is a lipotropic agent that disperses fat globules in the body and also appears to be involved in keeping down the cholesterol level." (Ex. F)
- K. In regard to Glucomannan: "GLUCOMANNAN... Feel Full, Satisfied and Eat Less... Glucomannan helps your body to process your food easier and faster. Therefore many of the calories you do take in pass through your digestive tract undigested without adding inches to your waistline. Helps you lose weight without harmful drugs, chemicals or stimulants." (Ex. G)
- L. In regard to Sugar Blocker: "Stop Sugar Calories before they make it to your waistline. SUGAR BLOCKER. New Sugar Blocker contains the herb Gymnema Sylvestre which helps to impede the absorption of some of the sugar you eat . . . When taken before a meal, Sugar Blocker occupies the same sites in the small intestine where sugar is absorbed. With these sites blocked, the sugar passes through your system, greatly reducing assimilation by the body." (Ex. H)
- M. In regard to Spirulina 500 mg. tablets: "Diet without hunger... the natural way. SPIRULINA... People are reporting fast weight loss of 20 pounds and more ... without hunger!... Taken before meals it helps turn off your brain's hunger center. It cuts your drive to eat, so you stick to your diet." (Ex. I)
- N. In regard to Eye-Vites, also sold as CATA-RX: "EYE-VITES Tablet. A Nutritional Breakthrough in Cataracts Prevention . . . [N]ow, thanks to the efforts of a group of dedicated vision scientists, there's Eye-Vites . . . the nutritional approach to the prevention of age related cataracts. The potent anti-oxidants and

micronutrients in Eye-Vites combine to help prevent the formation of cataracts. Research has proven that patients undergoing anti-oxidant therapy were 70% less likely to develop cataracts." (Ex. J)

- O. In regard to KLB6 Grapefruit Diet: "KLB6 GRAPEFRUIT DIET . . . Puritan's Pride brings you the ultimate grapefruit diet formula to help you lose weight. You get the famous KLB6 combination that helps keep your body active so you can burn calories. Grapefruit extract works as a 'fat melter' to stimulate your metabolism and suppress the appetite." (Ex. K)
- P. In regard to Herbal Cellulex Formula: "HERBAL CELLULEX FORMULA ... Millions of dieters have used this unique herbal-vitamin formula as part of their herbal diet weight loss plan . . . . You also get the famous Kelp, Lecithin and Cider Vinegar 'fat fighters' plus 6 herbal extracts." (Ex. F)
- Q. In regard to Memory Booster: "An Exciting Blend of Nutrients to Help Sharpen Your Mind. MEMORY BOOSTER. Memory Booster from Puritan's Pride combines these special natural ingredients to work together as an aid to memory retention and mental alertness." (Ex. J)
- R. In regard to Ginsana: "GINSANA. Concentrated Herbal Extract Helps Build Physical Endurance and Mental Alertness. Years of research studies have shown that endurance [and] mental alertness... were improved among Ginsana users." (Ex. L)
- S. In regard to Fatbuster Diet Tea: "Lose weight naturally with . . . FATBUSTER DIET TEA . . . The result is a flavorful beverage that actually helps you shed unwanted pounds! When taken after every meal, the special combination of herbs filters through fatty substances, aiding your body in eliminating them . . ." (Ex. F)
- T. In regard to Shake-A-Weigh: "SHAKE-A-WEIGH . . . This great tasting seasoning contains . . . Pantothenic Acid (B5) which helps food to pass rapidly through your digestive tract allowing less time to absorb calories." (Ex. G)
- U. In regard to Dark Circle Eye Treatment: "This photo shows how there is no longer any evidence of dark circles after only one application on her left eye. DARK CIRCLE EYE TREATMENT. Makes Your Dark Circles Disappear... Dark Circle Eye Treatment is a new beauty discovery that therapeutically removes dark circles from the delicate area under your eyes in 2 easy steps." (Ex. M)
- V. In regard to Natural Sterol Complex: "ADVANCED MUSCLE BUILDING FORMULA. NATURAL STEROL COMPLEX. MASS AND DENSITY ENHANCER... To maximize gains in muscle mass and strength, world-class bodybuilders train with Natural Sterol Complex... For serious growth in mass and strength, you need real power. And nothing powerizes you like Natural Sterol Complex by Universal. It's the most advanced, anabolic-strength formula available today for anyone looking to build a huge, massive and awe-inspiring body... Massive arms. Rock-hard shoulders. Awesome legs. Chiseled abs. For building your body, nothing even comes close to the power of Natural Sterol Complex." (Ex. N)
- W. In regard to Super Fat Burners: "SUPER FAT BURNERS. Super Fat Burners contains a special combination of vitamins, minerals and amino acids needed for the reduction of fat cells. The ingredients in this formula help the body's ability to burn fat, thereby promoting visible muscle definition." (Ex. O)

- X. In regard to Super Cut: "SUPER CUT . . . The ingredients in this formula help the body's ability to burn fat, thereby promoting visible muscle definition." (Ex. P)
- Y. In regard to Papaya Enzyme Tablets: "PAPAYA ENZYME Tablets. An aid to better digestion from papaya... [C]ontains the enzyme Papain which helps you digest protein and helps release the nutritional potency of your foods and also promotes comfortable natural digestive processes." (Ex. Q)
- Z. In regard to Calmtabs: "CALMTABS. All Natural Non-Habit Forming Herbal Relaxant. Puritan's Pride Calmtabs offers you a gentle and safe way to relax especially when everyday stress winds you up. This special formulation gives you six different herbs known for their calmative properties . . . You can enjoy Calmtabs' soothing, calm effect anytime during the day or before bedtime." (Ex. R)
- PAR. 5. Through the use of the statements contained in the advertisements and promotional materials referred to in paragraph four, including but not necessarily limited to the attached Exhibits A-R, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that:
  - A. Sleeper's Diet promotes weight loss during sleep.
- B. L-Arginine stimulates the release of human growth hormone which increases muscle mass while decreasing body fat.
- C. L-Ornithine stimulates the release of human growth hormone which increases muscle mass while decreasing body fat.
- D. Prostex relieves the symptoms of benign prostatic hypertrophy.
- E. L-Cysteine (1) increases hair growth, (2) prevents hangovers and brain and liver damage from alcohol, and (3) helps prevent harm caused by cigarette smoke.
  - F. L-Lysine improves stress tolerance and reduces fatigue.
  - G. L-Methionine prevents premature hair loss.
- H. Octacosanol increases stamina, vigor, and endurance, improves reaction time, lowers cholesterol levels and strengthens muscles.
- I. New Zealand Green Lipped Mussel Extract prevents arthritis and relieves its symptoms.
  - J. KLB6 causes weight loss and reduces cholesterol levels.
- K. Glucomannan causes weight loss by suppressing appetite and allowing calories to pass through the body undigested.
- L. Sugar Blocker prevents weight gain by impeding the body's absorption of sugar.
- M. Spirulina 500 mg. tablets suppress the appetite, enabling adherence to a diet.

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- N. KLB6 Grapefruit Diet causes weight loss by stimulating metabolism and suppressing appetite.
- O. Herbal Cellulex Formula causes weight loss by eliminating body fat.
- P. Memory Booster improves memory retention and mental alertness.
  - Q. Ginsana helps build physical endurance and mental alertness.
- R. Fatbuster Diet Tea causes weight loss by eliminating fatty substances from the body.
- S. Shake-A-Weigh reduces the body's absorption of calories from food.
- T. Dark Circle Eye Treatment removes dark circles from under the eyes.
- U. Natural Sterol Complex promotes growth in muscle mass and improves strength.
- V. Super Fat Burners reduces body fat, thereby promoting muscle definition.
- W. Super Cut reduces body fat, thereby promoting muscle definition.
- X. Papaya Enzyme Tablets aid digestion and promote greater absorption of nutrients from food.
  - Y. Calmtabs relieves stress and promotes relaxation.

#### PAR. 6. In truth and in fact:

- A. Sleeper's Diet does not promote weight loss.
- B. L-Arginine does not stimulate the release of human growth hormone so as to increase muscle mass while decreasing body fat.
- C. L-Ornithine does not stimulate the release of human growth hormone so as to increase muscle mass while decreasing body fat.
  - D. L-Cysteine does not promote hair growth.
  - E. L-Methionine does not prevent premature hair loss.

Therefore the representations set forth in paragraph five A, B, C, G, and E(l) were, and are, false and misleading.

PAR. 7. Through the use of the statements contained in the advertisements and promotional materials referred to in paragraph four, including but not necessarily limited to the attached Exhibits A-R, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that at the time they made the representations set forth in paragraph five A-

- Y, respondents possessed and relied upon a reasonable basis that substantiated such representations.
- PAR. 8. In truth and in fact, at the time they made the representations set forth in paragraph five A-Y, respondents did not possess and rely upon a reasonable basis that substantiated such representations. Therefore, the representation set forth in paragraph seven was, and is, false and misleading.
- PAR. 9. Through the use of the statements contained in certain advertisements and promotional materials set forth in paragraph four, including but not necessarily limited to the advertisements and promotional materials attached as Exhibits D, E, J, and L, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that scientific research, including scientific papers and/or studies, prove that:
- 1. Octacosanol may improve reaction time, lower cholesterol levels and strengthen muscles.
- 2. New Zealand Green Lipped Mussel Extract prevents arthritis and relieves its symptoms.
- 3. As to Eye-Vites, also sold as CATA-RX, patients undergoing anti-oxidant therapy such as that provided by Eye-Vites and CATA-RX are 70% less likely to develop cataracts.
  - 4. Ginsana improves physical endurance and mental alertness.
- PAR. 10. In truth and in fact, at the time respondents made the representations set forth in paragraph nine, scientific research, including scientific papers and/or studies, did not prove that (1) Octacosanol may improve reaction time, lower cholesterol levels and strengthen muscles, (2) New Zealand Green Lipped Mussel Extract prevents arthritis and relieves its symptoms, (3) patients undergoing anti-oxidant therapy such as that provided by Eye-Vites and CATA-RX are 70% less likely to develop cataracts, and (4) Ginsana improves physical endurance and mental alertness. Therefore, the representations set forth in paragraph nine were, and are, false and misleading.
- PAR. 11. Through the use of the trade names set forth in this paragraph, including but not necessarily limited to their uses in the advertisements and promotional materials attached as Exhibits A, J, M, and O referred to in paragraph four, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that:

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- 1. "Sleeper's Diet" promotes weight loss during sleep.
- 2. "Memory Booster" improves memory retention.
- 3. "Dark Circle Eye Treatment" removes dark circles from under the eyes.
  - 4. "Super Fat Burners" reduces body fat.
- PAR. 12. In making the representations referred to in paragraph eleven, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that at the time they made these representations they possessed and relied upon a reasonable basis that substantiated such representations.
- PAR. 13. In truth and in fact, at the time respondents made the representations set forth in paragraph eleven, they did not possess and rely upon a reasonable basis that substantiated such representations. Therefore, the representation set forth in paragraph twelve was, and is, false and misleading.
- PAR. 14. The acts and practices of respondents as alleged in this complaint constitute unfair or deceptive acts or practices and the making of false advertisements in or affecting commerce in violation of Sections 5(a) and 12 of the FTC Act.

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#### **EXHIBIT A**



EXHIBIT A

#### **EXHIBIT B**

NATURAI A <b>MIN</b>	L(FREE FORM)  O ACID TAB		rs	
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EXHIBIT B

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#### **EXHIBIT C**

# AMINO ACID GUIDE

#### L-ALANINE

- used as body fuel by tessues of the brein, nervous
- · mooreant in conventing energy to expred energy in the body's Krebs energy cycle
- moontant nurogen questly for poet-nury states
- builds up the immune system, producing im-nunogopune and antibodes

#### L-ARGININE

- · nospensess for optimum growth
- structes the release of growth hormons
   moortent to much metabolism acts as a valida for transport, storage and expression of introgen
- · remeans muscle mass while decreasing the amount
- · make an important role in post-neary problems such as weight changes, nitrogen beance and tolkie healing incresses colegen, the man supportive forcus protein
- found in bond, cartilegs and other connective teaus.

   stimulates the immune system.
- compete physical and mental fatigue
   noncesses apermetogenesis.
- · used in the treetment of hepatic (liver) decidens
- · promotes the detaxification of arrythone which a

#### L-ASPARTIC ACID

- increases resistance to fistigue involved in the formation of RNA and DNA, the charmost bases of heredity and corners of genetic information series of separatic acid increase stamms and endurance
- protects the liver and promotes normal call function

#### L-CITRULLINE

- neps recovery from fetigue
   stimulates the immune system; therefore, beneficial in the presence of any dress, decese, traumetic hury or
- metaboizes to L-Anginne
   detoxifies ammonia which is poisonous to living cells.

- found to increase heir growth by as much as 100% iffective in preventing not only hangovere but bren and we demage from aborbol
- helps prevent demages from the 4 effects of operation
- detoxifies many harmful charactes
   nepful in the treatment of meumetoid artificial
- promotes heating and the immune system

#### L-CYSTINE

- · essential for the formation of sidn and helf
- promotes recovery from surgical operations and burns
   used in the treatment of respiratory disorders such es chronic bronchibs
- gycogenic lenergy storage source of guippes by the
   etimulates white blood cell activity in the immune everem recessory for the resetance to desert

#### L-GLUTAMIC ACID

- expecially important in brain metabolism
   functions as a brain fluir serving as an exotatory
- eum across the blood bren bern
- combines to form L-Gutamine and in the process picks
   up emmone redicals. This is the only method the briefly has of detaxifying emmone.
- necrumental in t
- metabolizes sugars and fets
- \* increases the blood suger level; used in the treatment of hypogyceme

#### L-GLUTAMINE

- eusteins mental abity
- stong with L-Gutamic Acid is used as a brein fulf . used in the treatment of alcoholem; can protect
- agenet stond posoning

  has been used in the treatment of schizophrene and

#### GLYCINE

- scal value as a scurce of crestine which is t ball for muscle function, breaking down phycogen and
- · produces gucogen which mobiles glycogen is ettored
- energy source of glucosal from the liver.

   builds up the immune system, producing emmunociabulns and entibod
- \* acts as a introgen poor for the synthesis of non-essential errino social
- effective for hyperecetry justed in many gastric artifact

- used in the theatment of evergic decesses
   used in the theatment of maintenanced entirities.
- important in the production of red and white blood calls; used in the theatment of sname.

- primarry metabolized in muscle tiesue
- . essential to the formation of hamoglobin
- should always be in wet-belended proportion with L-Leudine and L-Valine

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Complaint

#### **EXHIBIT C**

# AMINO ACID GUIDE

#### L-LEUCINE .

- mecabolized in mulecle tiesus
   promotes healing of ekin and broken bones
- towers steveted blood sugar levels should aways be in well belanced proportion with L-

#### L-LYSIME .

- inhoits the growth of viruses used in the theatment of harpes simplex virus
- produces L-Carritine which improves stress tolerance and fat metabolism and has an anti-fatiguit effect.
- promotes bons growth by helping to form colleges, the forcus procen which makes up bons, certilege and other corrective tiesus

#### L-METHIONINE .

- is loot/cook, preventing excessive fat buildup in the liver
- here prevent premeture her thes
- . Interacts with other body substances to distoutly nemmful compounds
- fatigue agent

#### L-ORNITHINE

- \* etimulates the release of growth hormone which in-
- halps build up the immune system
- promotes iver function and regeneration
   moortant in the formacion of uneal decoupling amone which is possonous to living outs

#### L-PROLINE

- extremely important for the proper function of jointal and tendons, as well as good heart investes.
- glycogenic lenergy storage source of guodes by the liver and muscles!
- a major constituent of collegen, the men floraus proten found in bone, centrage and other connective teaus

#### L-PHENYLALANINE

- products and mentains an elevated and positive mood.
- Inflational terrotory
   Inflational terrotory
   products neurotrenerrotains which control impulse themselves between nerve cale.
- III INDIVISIO IN CODEMINE CHENEMERON
- ed in the treatment of certain types of depression

- glycogenic lenergy storage source of glucose by the liver and muscles!
- \* builds up the immune system, producing im-

#### TAURINE

- . found in high concentrations in the teaues of the heart.
- skeletal muscos and central narvous system

  used to treat some forms of solispay by controling

#### L-THREONINE .

- s spotropic, preventing fatty buildup in the sven
- . Glycogenic lenergy storage source of glycose by the
- sessantial to normal growth
- · parterely low in vegetamen dieta
- . builds up the immune system, producing immunoglobulins and entitloods

#### L-TRYPTOPHAN'

- If used by the brein to produce the neurotransmitter
- used by the brain to produce the neurotranent tersention which neather in a caming effect
   used in the treatment of insomine, streams with and
  depression, it is
   schulded brainess of group from which burns
  bodyles and acts as grant or weight control
   used in the treatment of group from the produce.

  used in the treatment or impresses.

- plays an important role in the function of the editions.
- printery and thyroid glands generates red and write blood cale
- \* is used in the theatment of enuisty, depression and

- recomme

  # produces Melenn, the skin and her bigment

  # produces nonepinephnine, an appetite inhibitory
  neurotheremitter that suppresses appetite

  # stimulates the release of growth homone which
  causes muscle growth and neduces body fet

#### L-VALINE .

- glycogenic (energy storage source of glucose by the liver and the muscles)
   metabolized in muscle
- $^{\bullet}$  . should elways be in well belenced proportion with  $\text{L}_{\uparrow}$ Leuche and L-leoleuche
- used in the treatment of severe amno and deficiences caused by additions
- \* Essential Amino Acid 9 Pager Prince 1984 Privas Enterpress. Senta Cruz, CA. Used with permason

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#### **EXHIBIT D**

#### TENTION MEN! **PROSTEX** MAN-VITES" VITAMIN FORMULA SPECIFICALLY FOR MEN Can Help You! If you are over 50 years of age and Benigh Prostatic Hypertrophy is causing these discomforts: • Frequent urination • Painful urinati These chewable tables have a pleasing honey-nutifavor and contain 100 LU. of Vitamin E. 100 mg. of all natural Bee Pollen, rich in protein and free amino acids, and 100 mg. of Vitamin B-12. This combination may be what your body needs to meet your unique requirements. Frequent urination • Painful Urgency to urinate • Dribblir Distended bladder due to incomplete emptying Sleepless nights caused by night time urination night time urination Developed by a doctor — Prostex is a scientific combination of 3 pure amino acids in capsule form it is sale, natural and effective when taken as directed fol tablets daily) to relieve the symptoms of Benign Prostatic Hypertroony. If you sulfer from urinary distress, see your doctor. Then, if he diagnoses Benign Prostatic Hypertroony, use Prostex for sale, natural refield. OTY. PROD NO. PRICE\* 100 4030 9.95 Special Sale does not apply. 100 841 , Sugar, Starch and , Preservative Free ·INTERNATIONAL TREASURES GINSENG Ginseng is one of the oldest and most highly regarded herbs known to man. It has been referred to as the "root of life, the queen of herbs" and the "herb of eternal life." Ancient Asians prized it more than gold and royal families gave it as gifts. Modern research in the Soviet Union resulted in its use by Russia's olympic athletes and her cosmonauts. It is also part of the diet of Japan's professional basebail players. If you're looking for results, Puntan's Pride Ginseng is the finest high quality product you can buy. It is cultivated in the Asian Area which yields the greatest potency, high quality product. Increase Stamina, Vigor and Endurance **OCTACOSANOL** The secret of Wheat Germ Revealed Sugar, Starch and Preservative Free Octacosanol has been isolated as one of the most important ingredients found in wheat germ oil. In fact a recent study at the University of Illinois has shown that Octacosanol may speed reaction time. To we'er Cholesterol it evels and strengthen muscles (including the heart). MANCHURIAN GINSENG 250 mg. Capsules orv. PROD. NO. 1 POR 50 1270 6.25 100 1271 11.60 Higher Polency 500 mg. Tablets 977. PROC. NO. 1 FOR 50 3110 940 3111 1725 1000 mcg. Capsules 50 3820 9.85 3111 3113 5000 mcg. Tablets Five times the potency in one convenient tablet. KOREAN GINSENG 500 mg. Capsules 017. PROD. NO. 1 FOR 100 5021 16.90 917. 50

#### **EXHIBIT E**

### Natural Pain Relief

M-KYA® (LEG-EZE)

Relieves Leg Cramp Pain.

Enjoy a full night's sleep without painful leg cramps. A non-prescription formula. M-KYA actually relaxes inte knotted, tight muscless that cause painful leg cramps. Conventional pain relievers simply dull pain. M-KYA works directly on the muscles, relaxing them to relieve pain.

Compare to Q-Vel\*\*\*

#### Long Lasting Arthritis Pain Relief

#### **MYKON PLUS Tablets**

Do all those things you used to enjoy before the pain of arthritis, bursitis and rheumatism stopped you. You'll even be able to sleep the whole night through.

Take doctor-recommended MYKON Tablets for natural pain relief. MYKON is powerful yet so safe it is available without prescription. The special ingredients in MYKON work prescription. The special ingredients in MYKON work quickly to ease aches and pains giving fast temporary relief.

OTY: PROD. NO. PRICE:

100 4090 9.85 \*Our Special Sale does not apply.

For Complete Formula see Page 86.

## **DL-PHENYLALANINE**

An aid for offsetting depression and relieving pain.

Research suggests that this pure form of DL. Phenylalanine will perform a superior function as a nutritional supplement. It has been recorded to aid in offsetting depression and in relief of pain.

Ours is the pure form of DL. Phenylalanine and nota mixture of both "D" and "L".

Each tablet contains 500 mg.

QTY.	PROD. NO.	3 FOR
50	4050	10.95
100	4052	20.30

# BACK-EZE NEW

BACK-EZE
Back-Eze is a brand new supplement that combines the specific nutritional elements found in healthy spines and discs. Each tablet provides essential vitamins and minerals including calcium, magnesium, zinc, potassium, vitamin C and vitamin B-6 to heb right the aching-back syndrome.

Try some Back-Eze today.

120 8066 9.95





## **NEW ZEALAND GREEN LIPPED** EXTRACT NEW

Ithas been snown in recent studies that Green Lipped Mussel not only relieves the symptoms of anthritis, but works on the cause. For relied of one of the most cannul and discomforting ailments. Try Puritan's Pride Green Lipped Mussel today!

#### 250 mg.

Sugar & Starch Free

100 4950

Soothe Pain EXTRA-ACTIVE ACTIVE FORMULA Away **COOL HOT GEL** 

## Compare to the active ingredient of "Mineral Ice".

of "Mineral Ice".

Apply Purtan's Pinde Cool Hot Gel to get soothing relief. This remarkable creamy balm gives overnight temporary relief from the pain of arthritis, bursits, rheumausm, soreness, stiffness and annoying aches and pains of the common cold. Expenence the tingly-cool of an ice-pack then loasty heat to bring deep soothing relief. Begin to sleep peacefully again. You will actually feel the lessening of pain within 24 hours.

120 F.T.C.

#### **EXHIBIT F**

# Losing weight is easy the KLB6 wa

#### The original natural fat fighting plan that helps put you in shape.

that helps put you in shape.

KLB6 Teleps, Lecithin, Vitamin 8-6 and Cider Vinegar, all-in-one capsule.

KELP — a natural food rich in iodine, it works to maintain a healthy thyroid. And of course, a sluggish metabolism is an enemy to anyone wishing to stead a few pounds.

LECTHIN — an excellent matural source of choline and inostitol—mo members of the 8-Complex of vitamins. Lecithin is essential to health and is of special interest if you're concerned about weight reduction. It is a ipotropic agent that disperses fet globules in the body and also appears to be involved in keeping down the cholestorel level.

8-6 — functions as a coentyme involved in protein and fat metabolism when used in comunication with kelp, lecithin and cider vinegar.

cider vinegar.

CIDER VINEGAR — a natural and rich source of potassium and other associated minerals.

## Sugar and Starch Free 6 KLB6 cassues dairy contain Visimo 3-6 Phydosine HCD. 27 mg - 400 Mo. 3 FOR 400 mg - 400 Mo. 1210 5.95 Coler Vinegar 240 mg - 250 1211 20.05

# 

NO caffeine

aids in digestion

 NO side-ellect
 Calms tense nerves NO side-effects

Satisfies and the ancient Chinese secret for weight loss! This exclusive lea contains Chinese herbs such as ginseng, comfley and other nerbs, carefully bended according to a Invosand-year old oriental formula. The result is a llavorful beverage that actually helps you shee unwained pounds! When taken after every meal. The special combination of herbs lifers through lafty substances, adming your body in eliminating them, and as abouts, the delicious taste and aroma have a calming effect on your nerves, making on photo. No. PRICE! you lear refreshed 30 Foa Bags 5686 955 and rejuvenated.

For those who prefer a higher potency tablet

# ULTRA

Sugar, Starch and Preservative Free

This formulation offers what we believe to be the highest potency of this ideal combination in a tablet. ULTRA KLB6 tablets provide an ideal subject ment to the now-lamous 100 calones per day diet that is being followed successfully by many thousands throughout the country.

50 mg 2500 00 mg 240 mg

	courses (adjusted a	C 8 804
QTY.	PROD. NO.	3 FOR
100	1240	6.95
250	1243	15.80
500	1245	29.25



3 FOR

#### HERBAL CELLULEX FORMULA

#### Compare to Herbalife's' Cell-U-Loss

Millions of dieters have used this unique herbal-vitamin formula as part of their herbal diet weight loss plan Herbal Celulex vs a special herbal formula fortiled with natural Vitamin C. Potassium and fron. You also get the famous Kelp. Lectinn and Cider Vinegar "lat fighters" plus 6 herbal extracts.

From replac Cevater Identification (Page 1) and the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos or ferror control of the College Vinlegate at Inglaters pilos of the College Vinleg

\*\*\*The amount of wellon! you lose will dispand on your body size, calone intake and level of activity. As with starting any ciet, you should first consult your physician.

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#### **EXHIBIT G**







#### For Dieters and Cholesterol Watchers! Low Fat Cooking with Diet Brush

This amazing prush has nigh technology polymer fibers that attract grease like a magnet, but repel other riouids. Brush it across the top of soups, stews and roasts to skim off the floating lat. Sit with it, and it removes from deep down. Wipe bacon, french fries and namourgers to reduce fat and calories Works better and cheaper frain paper towers. Brush was eccean in sink or dishwasher.

QTY.	NO.	PRICE'	
1 Brush	5679	4.95	

#### SHAKE-A-WEIGH Adds flavor to your diet while

suppressing your appetite

This great tasting seasoning contains an appetite suppressant, a diuretic to reduce water retention; enzymes to break down food and Pantotherine. Actid (85) which helps food to pass rapidly through your digestive tract allowing less time to

pass rapidly through your digestive ract allowing less limited bashorb callories.
Shake-A-Weigh is a natural assortment of herbs and spices you can sprinkle on salads, soups, meats, etc., to enhance the flavor of food. Use it like any flavoring or spice.

1 797. PROD. MD. PRICE! Our Special Sale does not apply.

#### **TRYMTONE 1200 All-Natural Amino Acid Dietary Supplement**



A natural weight loss helper derived from vegetarian sources specially formulated for inose concerned with their nutrinous well-being. This sale, drug-free amino actid dietal supplement gives you the power of three essential amino actid. Arginne, L-Glycine & L-Lysine along with 15 mg, Pyrdoxine RVI, which acts as a co-enzyme in carbohydrate, protein and fat utilization.

OTY.	PROD.	1 BOTTLE
120	5687	15.95

\*Our special sale does not apply.

#### GLUCOMANNAN\*\* 500 mg. Capsules

Feel Full, Satisfied and Eat Less

and Eat Less

When taken with 8 ounces of water, the Glucomannan Capsules instantly start to form any find the first of the first own and the first own and the first own appetite before you take in ouncecssary caiones. In addition, Glucomannan helps your Loudy to process your food easier and laster. Therefore many of the caiones you do take in pass through your digestive tractunglested without adding inches to your waistime. Helps you lose weight without hard drugs, chemicals to stimulants.

ont. PROO, NO. 1708

QTY.	PROD. NO.	3 FOR
90	1891	14 90
250	1893	37.25

#### Get That Full Feeling Naturally. . . **GUAR GUM** Capsules\*\* It's Natural, Safe

and Works Fast!

and Works Fast!
Guar Gum is the natural gelforming fiber that many medical
experts are recommending as
a new, effective diet aid. It is a
natural soluble fiber that comes
from the guar plant, found in
indie and Sn Lanka.
Guar Gum works because it
helps to make your stomach
other appetite suppressants
before, you owert to yourself to
try Guar Gum; the one that
really works.

TY. PROD. MO. 3 FOR.

5.95

120 F.T.C.

1

#### **EXHIBIT H**

Reduce Lose weight fast while you spoil yourself with either a **Excess** luscious chocolate, creamy **Body Water** vanilla, or delicious Natural strawberry taste. Herbal NATURE'S BOUNTY® **Diuretics** Yeast, Sugar, Salt & Preservative Free **Fortified** WATER PILL" with FIBER, TABLET **CALCIUM** with POTASSIUM and 20 Vitamins & Minerals NATURES BOUNTY 3.75 6.85 SLIM QUIC WATER PILL"
TABLET
with IRON 14 oz. 9TY. 14 OZ & POTASSIUM Stop Sugar Calories before they make it to your waistline. SUGAR BLOCKER™ SUGAR BLOCKER\*

New Sugar Blocker contains the herb Gymmema Sylvestre which helps to impede the absorption of some of the sugar you eat. Sugar Blocker works because it's molecular structure of sugar. When taken before a meal. Sugar Blocker occupies the same ettes in the small intestine where sugar is absorbed. With these sites blocked, the sugar passes through your system greatly reducing assimilation by the body. Sugar Blocker itself also passes out of your body evernally, making this amazing body evernally, making this amazing Buy 1 Bottle GET 1 FREE (Total 2) \* Buy 2 Bottles GET 3 FREE (Total 5) 83

#### **EXHIBIT I**



120 F.T.C.

#### **EXHIBIT J**



with Odorless Garlic Sugar, Starch and Preservative Free

Sugar, Starch and Preservative Free Medical evidence continues to indicate that fish oils can substantially reduce cholesterol and blood pressure. New EPA with Garlic from Purtain 8 Pride is a unique combination of fish oils combined with odorless garlic to maximize your untritional benefits. Now you can have the combined benefit of both EPA (marine lipid concentrate) and natural garlic all in one easy to swallow softgel capsule.

ı	OTY.	PROD. NO.	PRICE	SALE
ı	Lemon Oil			1 5 mg
1	Ascorbyl Pal	mitate		20 mg
1	Vitamin E (d-	Alpha Tocopher	여 .	7 0 mg
ı	Gartic Powd	er		. 50 0 mg
1		snexsenoic Acid		. 120 mg
1	EPA (Ercosa	pentaenoic Acid		180 mg
ı	Marine Lipid	Concentrate		. 1000 0 mg

#### Don't Let Cataracts **Dim Your Vision EYE-VITES®** Tablet

A Nutritional Breakthrough

A Nutritional Breakthrough in Cataracts Prevention
An alarming 2 out 3 Americans over age 60 develop cataracts, a condition that clouds the lens of the eye and blurs the vision. For most cataracts sufferers, the usual surgicial solution is an unpleasant alternative to the problem. But now, thanks to the efforts of a group of dedicated vision scientists, there's Eye-Vites ... the nutritional approach to the prevention of age related cataracts. The potent anti-oxidants and micro-nutrients in Eye-Vites combine to help prevent the formation of cataracts. Research has proven III... apparent of cataracts and the expensive of the province of the provinc

OTY. PROD. NO. PRICE-60 5626 16.95 \*Our special sale does not apply.

Natural EPA Marine Lipid CHOLESTERCI Concentrate 1000 mg. Capsules Sugar, Starch and Preservative Free

Sugar, Starch and Preservative Free
Now you can increase your intake of EPA and
DHA, the two essential Omega-3 lathy acids
without having to eat large amounts of oity lish.
Just one capsule of Puritan's Pride EPA Marine
Lipid Concentrate provides 180 mg, of EPA
(Eicosapentaeno., acid) and 120 mg, of DHA
(Docosahexaenoic acid) plus 1 I.U. of natural
Vitamin E as an antioxidant. Puritan's Pride is
proud to ofter you such a beneficial natural
supplement. Order your supply today!

QTY.	PROD. NO.	PRICE
50	3830	5.50
100	3832	9.95
250	3835	22.95

#### An Exciting Blend of Nutrients to Help Sharpen Your Mind MEMORY BOOSTER™

Memory Booster from Puritan's Pride combines these special natural ingredients to work together as an aid to memory retention and mental alerthesa.

Two Memory Booster tablets provide:

are tress.

Two Memory Booster tablets provide:

L-Giutamine 250 mg.— An important amino acid used by the brain as an energy source for high level brain activity.

Pilbonucleic Acid (RNA) 250 mg.— A key factor for Jel reproduction vially important to Rving cells and believed to be a memory and learning component that assists the brain.

L-Phenylatenine 250 mg.— An amino acid capable of producing Epinephrine, a vital element of healthy neuroscivity.

Choline Bitarrata 250 mg.— Part of the Vitamin B-Complex group and component of acety-choline, important for nerve impulse transmission.

Gotu Kola 250 mg.— A vicidy used herb latien to avoid mental fatigue and improve mental acutty.

Lectron 1000 mg.— A richt source of choline which has been shown to a vide its midering processes of the brain.

Page.

	QTY.	٠	NO.	80	7100	<u>.                                     </u>	10	Marie .	
_	60	3.0	2070	•	8.8	3)2.7			<u>:</u>
7	100		2072	71.5	16.4	<u> </u>	1	Free	
	500	17	2073		73.9	500	437	90	

86 Buy 1 Bottle GET 1 FREE (Total 2) + Buy 2 Bottles GET 3 FREE (Total 5)

#### **EXHIBIT K**

#### KLB6 DIET MIX

Many people who have thed other diet dinks find them difficult to tolerate and not nearly as satisfying. A lew years ago we introduced KLB6 Diet Mix, a much better diet plan. Used by millions of successful dieters kLB6. Diet Mix is the exclusive formula forblied with kelp, lecithin, and Vitamin B-6. Its vanilla flavor and luscious chocolate flavor makes it the most delicious, easy to take, effective weight loss plan that can work for you.

take, effective weight uses present as depth of you. Taken as directed, twice a day, KLB6 Diet Mis provides 100% of the U.S. RDA of all the most important vitamins and minerals plus 80% of your protein requirement. There is no easier way to lose weight while maintaining sound nutrition.

#### Chocolate

 Chocolate

 (bastes like a rich chocolate shake)

 QUANTITY
 PROD. NO.
 3 FOR

 14 oz.
 2600
 11.95

#### Vanilla Flavor

 (tastes like a creamy vanilla shake)

 QUANTITY
 PROD. NO.
 1 FOR

 14 Oz.
 2590
 11.95

#### KLB6 GRAPEFRUIT DIET® The Ultimate

### Grapefruit Diet

#### 3 Powerful Diet Aids in 1 Formula

• KLB6® • Grapefruit Extract

Glucomannan

e Glucomannan
Purtan's Pride brings you the ultimate grapefruit diet formula to help you lose weight You get teamous KLB6 combination that helps keep your body active so you can burn calories. Grapefruit extract works as a "tametier" lostemulately your metabolism and suppriess the appetite. The Glucomannan in KLB6 Grapefruit Diet forms a natural high fiber get in your stomach to give that feeling of fullness. Dieting is so much easier without those nagging flunger pains. Follow the diet plan provided and start floaries and productive and start floaries and productive and start floaries and start floaries and start floaries and start floaries and start floaries.

POUR (4) TABLET			
Grapemuit Extrac	t. 800 mo	Kelo .	75 mg
Glucomennen	800 mg	Cider Vinegar	100 mg
Vitamin B-6	20 mg *	Uva Ursi	25 mg.
Lecitive	200 mg	L-Phenyssanine	25 mg
**000% of the U	S Recomm	enged Daily Allows	ince for
adults and childr	en 12 or mo	re years or age for "	Villamin
8-6			
KLB6P is a licen:	sed registers	PROPERTY DE	

QTY.	TY. PROD. NO.	
100	3970	8.95
250	3973	20.90
500	3975	38.60

#### CO ENZYME Q-10

## 10 mg. Tablets and 75 mg. Capsules

Co Enzyme Q-10 has been the subject of important research for the past 30 years. This nutrient reportedly plays a role in the poors production of adenosine tri-phosphate, the basic energy component of the cell. Popular as a cardiovascular supplement in Japan, Co Enzyme Q-10 is now available to you from Puritan's Pride.

10 mg.	Tablets	
QTY.	PROD. NO.	1 FOR
50	4710	15.95
75 mg.	Cap:ules	NEW POTENCY
QTY.	PROD. NO.	) FOR
30	5810	39.95

#### **WAIST TRIMMER** It's Fun ... It's Easy and It Helps You

Look and Feel Your Best!



QUANTITY PROD. NO. 1 56 44 6.1

HERDAL

#### **ORIENTAL HERBAL DIET**

Thousands of people have discovered the Oriental Herbal Diet. It's a blend of Ephedra and Glucomannan from the Orient. Also contains vitamins B-6. lecithin, kelp and cider vinegar'



120 F.T.C.

#### **EXHIBIT L**



SIL

Specification blades hands

QTY 1

Soo

for § Call

CA TRI.

CRI

Do your shoes f cause ( luses?

cream?;
by a six contain;
izers the harden.
Simply,
rectly to it's non-stain for just day and fee

4 oz.

\*Our sp appiy.

Complaint

#### **EXHIBIT M**



Makes Your Dark Circles Disappear

Circles Disappear
Eliminate that fatigued
look by making the unattractive dark circles under
your eyes disappear. Dark
Circle Eye Treatment is a
new beauty discovery that
therapeutically removes
dark circles from the
delicate area under your
eyes in 2 easy steps. The
Day Treatment actually
makes circles go ewey
while preventing eye
makeup from creasing.
The Night Treatment rejuenates and moisturtuses
the dry area under your
eyes where dark circles
occur.

Eye-Vites is a nutritional formula created to supplement your diet with the nutrients you need to help maintain healthy eyes and wison. Eye-Vites contain zinc, the mineral many researchers believe is essential for occular nutrition, plas vitemins A. C, and E. the antioxidants involved in important metabolic processes in the eye. Taken daily, Eye-Vites are a safe, natural way to supplement your diet with the nutrients you need for the nutrients you need for healthy, clear vision.

PROD. NO. PRICE 5626 16.95



Help Reduce Undereve Puffiness and Swelling

Help reduce the early morning puffiness and swelling that can occur under the eyes with this soothing, cool gel. Use it in the morning before applying make up. it's a great way to begin your daily beauty regimen.

OTY. PROD. NO. PRICE\*
.5 oz. 8239 5.95

\*Our special sale does not apply.

2 Formula 8229 9.95 treatment

QTY.

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Our special sale does not apply. Condition

dry, brittle eyelashesi EYE-LASH OIL

**OPTI-SHINE PEN** 

OP 11-STRING PEN
Have you sev malked in from
outside only to have your glasses
(og up on you? One application
from the easy to use Opti-Shine
Pen and your glasses are fog free.
The applications. Try it today. It
really works.

OTV: PROC. NO. PRICE: 'Our special
OTV: PROC. NO. Sale does not
sale does not
apply.

Keep your eyeglasses from slipping off. **OPTI-GRIP PEN** 

Just brush Opti-Grip on frame nosepieces and keep your eyeglasses or sunglasses exactly where you want them, all day long.

\*Our spec

Our special sale does not apply.



**PERMA-TWEEZ** Removes Unwanted Hair...PERMANENTLY!!

Hair...PERMANENTLY!!
Now you can save hundred's oldiars in professional electrolysis treatments with the Perma-Tweez permanent hair remove! Perma-Tweez has been clinically tested for safety and effectiveness in removing hair from face, eyebrows, arms, legs or any part of your body...in the privacy of your own home! Easy to use. No-skin-puncture safety leature. Order now and get rid of that unwanted hair...lorever!!

GTY. PROD NO. PRICE: 'Our special Used nightly this unique blend of oils helps to build stronger healther eyelashes. In just days you'll see the difference. Try some today!

GTY. PROD. NO. PRICE.

1/3 oz. 8141 4.45

1 5690 19.95 self oder not self of the manufacture and the manuf

Buy 1 GET 1 FREE (TOTAL 2) . Buy 2 GET 3 FREE (TOTAL 5)

EXHIBIT M

120 F.T.C.

**EXHIBIT N** 



## **MASS AND DENSITY ENHANCER**

Each Six Tablets Contain:	
GLANDULAR BALANCE AGENTS:	
Mexican Wild Yam Root	1000 mg
Smilax Officinalis Extract	
Mura Puama	
Sota Kola	
Smilagenin	
Diosgenin	
Hecogenin	
Boron	3 mg
ANABOLIC STEROLS:	
Gemme Oryzanoi	500 mg
Fucomeral	7659 mog
Beta-Stosterol	
Campesterol	
Stomasterol	1924 mag
Other Naturally Occurring Sterols	10,0891 mag
AMINO ACIDS:	
Arginine	1200 mg
Ommine	
ysne	
-eucine	
Valine	
legieucine	30 mg
Phenylalanine	30 mg
Threonine	24 mg
Methlonine	
Histidine	20 mg
LÍPOTROPICS (FAT BURNERS):	
Linbleic Acid	
Oleic Acid	
Paintic Acid	263 mg
Palmilic Acid	109 mg

Arachidonic Acid	13 mg
Ecosanoc Acid	11 mg
Behenic Acid	6 mg
Mynstic Acid	5 mg
ENERGY STIMULANTS:	
Bee Pollen	1000 mg
Guarana	
Korean Ginseng	
Cytochrome C	
thosine	
Dimetriotroine	
Royal Jely	
-,-,-,-	
ELECTROLYTER:	
Calcium	200 ma
Magnesium	100 mg
Potasaum	99 ma
	•
GROWTH AGENTS:	
Octacosanol	1650 mag
RNA	60 mg
ONA	30 mg
	•
PERFORMANCE BOTANICALS:	
Capalcutti	100 mg
Altaria	
Dandelion Root	
Gartic	
Yellow Dock	
Liconce Root	
Heat	
POTENTIATING FACTORS AND TRACE ME	HERALS:
Chromium, Silicon, Silver, Libium, Strontium,	- Sec. 1944

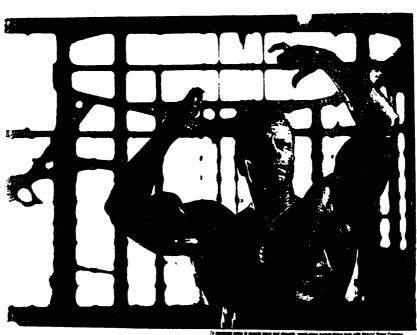


3 Terminal Rd., New Brunswick, NJ 08901 + 1-800-872-0101 (in NJ 1-908-545-3130)

206

Complaint

#### **EXHIBIT N**



# **Experience the Power.**

For sensus growm in mass and strength, nou need not power. And nothing powerizes violable natural Steroi Compiles or Universal. If site most aronace, and bodic strength formula proliable roder or anyone poking to build a huge, massive one ower-inspiring poetly.

That's why serious bodybuilders and horocore iftens swear by Natural Sterol Complex as the most cowerful, safest training supplement available. There's no other product nearly as potent or effective.

With an exclusive 3-way formura. Natural Steroi Compilex gives you more than ever becare. Each timereleased tablet is loosed with Anaboric Sterois, Glandurar Balance Agens, and Essantial Immino Acids, Mus Fedromes, Energizers, Locifocia, Growth Agents and Performance Numerit, Authorities for maximum anabolic gains and politimum performance.

Massive arms, Rockman Shoulden, Awasama egs. Chiseled abs, For building your sudy naming aren comes close to the power of Natural Serci. Complex, Experience it.

Natural Sterol Complex is available in 90 and 180 cabler sizes at health food stores and gyrms evanvences.





120 F.T.C.

#### **EXHIBIT O**

# Sports Nutrition Superface

#### **MUSCLE** & **WEIGHT GAINER**

#### Chocolate & Vanilla Flavors

Chocolate & Vanilla Flavors

Muscle and Weight Canner is a combination of tree-form and branched chain amino acids to help build muscle mass and gain pounds. It is formulated with high quality milk and egg protein, it essential vitamins, Sessential minerals, and Famino acids. Body Fortness Muscle & Weight Cainer gives you more body building protein, vitamino, minerals and amino acids than most other weight gain powders. For you that adds up to maximum nutritional power and weight gain potential, as much as 3 lbs. or more per week depending on how many shakes you drink. Natural energy packed carbohydrates are also included in Body Fortress Muscle and Weight Gainer to provide great taste and to help you recover quickly from your workoust.

Amino Acids Per 85 Gram 5	ALCINE.	MUDIC ALIE
Alimne	rre) mg.	1440 mg
Arginine	470 mg.	
Aspartic Acid	1740 mg	
('yuine	225 mg	370 mg
Clutamic Acid	4675 ms.	9035 mi
Glycine	5%) mg.	. 848) mi
Hotaline	AND me	1115 mg
I without the		3275 mg
Leucine	1115 me	Nat 25 mg
Lyvine	1765 me	3040 mg
Virthamme	0.75 mg	10HI m
Thenvisianine	(330)	JUN m
Tremvisionine .	12.17 mg.	15At) m
Proline	July mg.	2221
Service	1347 mg	2230 mj
*Threemene	. 1010 mg.	1735 mj
Tynnar	1140 mg.	1965 mg
Value	incli me.	2675 mi

#### Chocolate Flavor

PROD. NO. 5463	TY.
Vanilla Flavor	

#### YOHIMBE BARK 760 mg. Tablets

History heralds the natural herb, yohimbe Each, tablet provides 760 mg, of yohimbe bark.

PROD. NO.	QTY.
6351	50 Tablets

#### SUPER FAT BURNERS

Super rar furners contains a special combina-tion or vitamins, minerals, and amino acids needed for the reduction of rat cells. The intere-dients in this formula help the body's ability to burn lat, thereby promoting visible muscle defi-

nition.	٠,١	
hach Libber Principles	KD.	٧,
Choline Bitartrate	((\$3) mg	
[Ormeted	34) mg	
di-Methanine	211 mx	
H-o	ilms 34	41)
Retaine LK L	210 mg	
In a natural base or liver and *U % Recommended Daily A 12 or more years of age.	Leip illemance for adults and childs	٠,
PROD. NO.	QTV. 90 Table	

#### **SMILAX**

Smilax is a 100% pure cold processed Bio-Chelated Liquid Sarsapanila Root Extract de-rived from the Smilax officinalis root. It is a highly concentrated liquid used by bodybuild-ers for added nutrition.

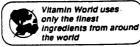
PROD. NO.		QTY.
5740	1	Fl. Oz.

#### Orange Flavor CARBO-BOOSTER

CARDO-DUSTEM

Carbo-Booster Energy Drink is a combination of complex carbohydrates to help meet your energy needs during sustained sport activity or heavy training. This complex grouping of carbohydrates metabolizes at different rates and digested showly to provide maximum glycogen.

Vitamin A	MMO I.U
Inm Bru Can	errer)
Vitamin C	. NO mg.
Vitamin B-1	.3 mg.
Vitamin B-2	14 mg
\ucummute	, wa
Vitamin B-n	4 mg
\ stamin B-12	n mag.
Cakrum	4) mg.
Onen Caktum	
Magnessum	110 mg.
from Magnesia	im Otalei
Potassum	. (15 mg.
PROD. NO.	QTY.
5490	16 oz.
	Vitamin B-1 Vitamin B-2 Nacinamide Vitamin B-1 Cakiumi Umin Cakiumi Magnesium Irrom Magnesii Pitassiumi PROD: NO.





10 OF 10 20 25 C 

## **EXHIBIT P**

NATURM AMIN'O 1500		
FREE FORM &	114 company of	
PEPTIDE BOND	The state	
Body Fortress Amino Acids are specially formulated and scien-	matterna Win :	and the Brahaman and the second second
rifically balanced for body build-		ANABOLIC
ers, power litters and profes- sional athletes. This formula		BOOSTER
contains a balanced blend of	•	
free form and peptide bond Amino Acids to give you opti-	-	Branch Chain & Free Form Amino Acids
mum utilization. Ingredents (Narmaconcalgrade Amms	THE PRINCES	PROD. NO. QTY.
Acids derived from Exclabration hydroly- sate and E.C. Printhine HCL.		540230 Tablets
Typical Amini A. id Profile	ARABAS	
Per o Tables L-Ornstune HCL 161.1 L-Lyune 836.2	500	DIBENCOZIDE
*L-Hystadine 196.6 *L-Arginine 329.2	"I FORM & PIPTICE!	10 mg.
L-Aspertic Acid	Taker 1	_
L-Senne 629.2 L-Glutamic Acid 1259.7		PROD. NO. QTY. 5860
L-Proline	CITED CITE	
L-Cvstine 250.9 L-Valine 445.3	SUPER CUT	CAMMA
*L-Methionine 203.8 *L-Isoleucine 543.5	Super Cut is a special formula- tion of vitamins, minerals and	GAMMA
"L-Leucine"	amino acids needed for lean muscle development. The in-	ORYZANOL
*L-Phenylalanine376.3 *Essential Amino Acids	gredients in this formula help the body's ability to burn fat,	60 mg.
PROD. NO. QTY.	thereby promoting visible	PROD. NO. OTY.
5091 150 Tablets 5097		5420 100 Tablets
	Each two tablets contain Choline 2000 mg. Inousiol 1000 mg	Crystalline
ARGININE-	di-Methonine AD me	Pure
ORNITHINE	B-6 IOU mg Betasn HCI 400 mg In a natural base of liver and kelp	INOSINE
1500	PROD. NO. QTV. 573090 Tablets	
2000	. 3730 90 Tablets	500 mg. 🕠
FREE FORM AMINO ACIDS	Yeast Free	PROD. NO. QTY. 4570
Body Fortress Arginine/Orni-	CHROMAX II	30 (Ablets
thine 1500 combines two of the	СНКОМІИМ	
body's most important build- ing blocks into one potent sup-	PICOLINATE	
plement. Each ingredient comes to you in its natural "L" free-	200 mcg.	If You Don't See It
form state for maximum meta-	Chromium Picolinate is an or- ganic chromium supplement. It	in Here, Ask Us!
bolic absorption and assimila- tion.	is yeast free and nighly assimil-	Vitamin World offers you the most
Each two labless provide	able, providing optimum effec- tiveness as a dietary supplement	up-to-date formulations.
L-Amprime (pharmacoutical grade) 1000 mg.	for the essential trace nutrient - chromium.	
L-Omitture (pharmaceutical, grade) 500 mg.	Each tables consume:	LIQUID
	Chromium (Picolinete)	AMINO
PROD. NO. QTY. 5411	PROD. NO. QTV. 6390100 Tablets	PROD. NO. QTY. 83716 Fl. Oz.
14-14 TA 18-15		25 at 25

120 F.T.C.

#### **EXHIBIT Q**



#### Natural **CHEWABLE ANTACID** with Calcium

Supplies 200 mg. of Elemental Calcium

Salt, Starch and Preservative Free

Saft, Starch and Preservative Free
A delicious fructose sweetened chewable
tablet to help make life more comfortable for
thousands of luzzy stomachs. Each tablet
contains 500 mg. of line active ingredient
Calcium Carbonate to provide symptomatic
relief and neutralize gastine acidity. Obtain
relief from acid indigestion, heartburn and
sour stomach with Puritan's Pree Natural
Antacid.

CHANTIX.

QUANTITY	PROD. NO.	3 FOR
100	2220	4.95
250	2223	11.55
500	2225	21.45

## BETAINE HYDROCHLORIDE

400 mg. Tablets
Sugar and Starch Free
As we get older, some of us may have
trouble digesting the foods we eat Puritan's
Pride Betaine Hydrochloride provides acids
that can naturally assist in the digestion of
fats, proteins and starches. One tablet taken
before meals supplies the powerful digestive
aid of 400 mg. of Betaine Hydrochloride.

QUANTITY	PROD. NO.	3 FOR
100	3850	4.30
250	3853	9.90

### **HERBAL LAXATIVE Tablets**

Safely Encourages Natural Elimination

Elimination
Sugar and Starch Free
Now a Latural way to obtain
relice. From the uncomfortable feeling of constitution.
Purtan's Pride combines a
mixture of natural active
taxative ingradients, which
include Senal Leaves, Cascara Sagrada and Frangula.
This is a gentle all - vegetable
and herb tablet.

QUANTITY	PROD. NO.	3 FOR 4.45		
100	2180			
500	2185	19.80		

~355(4)b=

HERBAL LAXATIVE

#### Chewable **PAPAYA ENZYME Tablets**

An aid to better digestion from papaya, "the Melon of the Tropics" Preservative Free New Fruit Flavored Chewable Tablets

Cnewable lablets

Puritan's Pride manulactures this natural digestive aid in pleasantly small tablets. Each Papaya tablet contains the enzyme Papan which helps you digest protein and helps release the nutritional potency of your loods and also promotes comfortable natural digestive processes.

QUANTITY	PROD. NO.	3 FOR		
100	1130	3.45		
250	1133	7.95		
500	1135	14.95		



#### **EXHIBIT R**



## **CALMTABS™**

All Natural Non-Habit Forming Herbal Relaxant

Herbal Helaxam 
Puntaria Price Calimbas offers 
you a gentle and safe way to 
relax especially when everyday stress winds you up. This 
special formulation gives you 
6 different nerbs known for 
their calimative properties 
since the days of ancient 
Egypt. You can enjoy 
Calimtabs' soothing, calim 
effect anyome during the day 
or before bedtime.

NEW EASY-TO-SWALLOW

# 

QTY.		_	_		_								ı		^-
Sugar & Preservative Free															
Dred Oran	,	•	4	۰	۰	,				٠		٠		*	gun.
Hone														*	orann.
Catrio		Û		i			ì	ı						1	OLENO.
Celery See	١.	i	i	i	i	ì			i					1	graen.
Passifors .	٠.	٠									٠	٠		1	GLEN,

QTY.	PROD. NO.	3 FOR
90	3261	4.95
250	3263	12.65
500	3265	23.50

#### Time Release NIACIN 250 mg.

Don't miss out on the benefits of Niacin Puritan's Pride now offers you a Time Release 250 mg, size capsule. This snew size has been micro-coated for easy swallowing, and has been specially processed to release its activity over 8 hours. Try some today!

QTY.	PROD. NO.	3 FOR
90	5800	7.99

Natural **EVENING** PRIMROSE OIL 500 mg. Capsules

with Natural Vitamin E 13 I.U.

Evening Primose Oil is especially highin the essential polyunsaturated farty acids resistance and gamma linolenic acid (GLA). Both are involved in the body's synthesis of prostaglandin, the chemical regulator of many body functions. Although both are involved, it is GLA which is directly converted to prostaglandin. Primose Oil is not retined or hydrogenated. It is virtually the only natural source, other than mother's milk, which supplies GLA directly to the diet.

## Sugar, Starch and Preservative Free

FOR
.95
2.95
5.98

#### **POTASSIUM**

99 mg.

#### potassium gluconate.

potassium gluconate.
Potassium helps in sending messages through the nervous system, keeps the body fluids properly balanced and helps attract nutrients from the blood stream into the cells. Without it sugar cannot be converted into energy nor can body starch be stored for future energy demands. This nutrient is excreted daily and therefore must be replaced each day. Sugar and Preservative Free

## YOU NEED IT EVERY DAY!

QTY.	PROD. NO.	3 FOR
100	1111	2.95
250	1113	6.05
500	1115	11.10
1000	1118	20.40



#### **BLACK CURRANT** OIL 460 mg. Capsules from Black Currants

Black Currants have been found to be a rich, natural source of GLA. GLA is essential to good health because it is involved in the body's synthesis of Prostaglandin, the chemical regulator of many body functions. Now Puntan's Pride is proud to other you this new rich source of GLA.

#### DECISION AND ORDER

The Federal Trade Commission having initiated an investigation of certain acts and practices of the respondents named in the caption hereof, and the respondents having been furnished thereafter with a copy of a draft of complaint which the Bureau of Consumer Protection proposed to present to the Commission for its consideration and which, if issued by the Commission, would charge respondents with violation of the Federal Trade Commission Act; and

The respondents, their attorney, and counsel for the Commission having thereafter executed an agreement containing a consent order, an admission by the respondents of all the jurisdictional facts set forth in the aforesaid draft of complaint, a statement that the signing of said agreement is for settlement purposes only and does not constitute an admission by respondents that the law has been violated as alleged in such complaint, or that the facts as alleged in such complaint, other than jurisdictional facts, are true and waivers and other provisions as required by the Commission's Rules; and

The Commission having thereafter considered the matter and having determined that it had reason to believe that the respondents have violated the said Act, and that a complaint should issue stating its charges in that respect, and having thereupon accepted the executed consent agreement and placed such agreement on the public record for a period of sixty (60) days, now in further conformity with the procedure prescribed in Section 2.34 of its Rules, the Commission hereby issues its complaint, makes the following jurisdictional findings and enters the following order:

- 1. Respondent Nature's Bounty, Inc., is a corporation organized, existing and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Delaware, with its office and principal place of business located at 90 Orville Dr., in the City of Bohemia, State of New York.
- 2. Respondent Puritan's Pride, Inc., is a corporation organized, existing and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Delaware, with its office and principal place of business located at 90 Orville Dr., in the City of Bohemia, State of New York. Puritan's Pride, Inc., is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Nature's Bounty, Inc.
- 3. Vitamin World, Inc., is a corporation organized, existing and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of

Decision and Order

Delaware, with its office and principal place of business located at 90 Orville Dr., in the City of Bohemia, State of New York. Vitamin World, Inc., is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Nature's Bounty, Inc.

4. The Federal Trade Commission has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this proceeding and of the respondents, and the proceeding is in the public interest.

#### **ORDER**

#### **DEFINITIONS**

For purposes of this order, the following definitions shall apply:

- 1. "Product" means any good that is offered for sale, sold or distributed to the public by respondents, their successors and assigns, under any brand name of respondents, their successors and assigns, or under the brand name of any third party. "Product" also means any product sold or distributed to the public by third parties under any brand name of respondents, or under private labeling agreements with respondents, their successors and assigns.
- 2. "Competent and reliable scientific evidence" shall mean tests, analyses, research, studies, or other evidence based on the expertise of professionals in the relevant area that has been conducted and evaluated in an objective manner by persons qualified to do so, using procedures generally accepted by others in the profession to yield accurate and reliable results.

T.

It is ordered, That respondents Nature's Bounty, Inc., Puritan's Pride, Inc., and Vitamin World, Inc., their successors and assigns, and their officers, agents, representatives, and employees, directly or through any partnership, corporation, subsidiary, division or other device, in connection with the manufacture, advertising, packaging, labeling, promotion, offering for sale, sale or distribution of any product in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in the Federal Trade Commission Act, do forthwith cease and desist from misrepresenting, in any manner, directly or by implication, the existence, contents, validity, results, conclusions, or interpretations

of any test, study, research article, or any other scientific opinion or data.

II.

It is further ordered, That respondents, their successors and assigns, and their officers, agents, representatives, and employees, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division or other device, in connection with the manufacturing, advertising, labeling, packaging, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of "Sleeper's Diet," "L-Arginine," or "L-Ornithine," or any other substantially similar amino acid product, in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in the Federal Trade Commission Act, do forthwith cease and desist from representing, directly or by implication, that:

- A. Any such product stimulates greater production or release of human growth hormone in a user than a non-user of such product;
  - B. Any such product promotes muscular development; or
- C. Any such product burns fat or otherwise alters human metabolism to use up or burn stored fat, or promotes weight loss.

For purposes of this order paragraph, "substantially similar amino acid product" shall mean any product which is of substantially similar composition or possesses substantially similar properties to Sleeper's Diet, L-Arginine or L-Ornithine.

#### III.

It is further ordered, That respondents, their successors and assigns, and their officers, agents, representatives, and employees, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division or other device, in connection with the manufacturing, advertising, labeling, packaging, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of L-Cysteine, L-Methionine, or any other substantially similar hair care product, in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in the Federal Trade Commission Act, do forthwith cease and desist from representing, directly or by implication, that any such product will prevent or retard hair loss or promote hair growth where hair has already been lost. For purposes of this order paragraph, "substantially similar hair care product" shall mean any product that is advertised or intended for

#### Decision and Order

sale over-the-counter to treat, cure or curtail hair loss or to promote hair growth where hair has already been lost, and which is of substantially similar composition or possesses substantially similar properties to L-Cysteine or L-Methionine.

#### IV.

It is further ordered, That respondents, their successors and assigns, and their officers, agents, representatives, and employees, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division or other device, in connection with the manufacturing, advertising, labeling, packaging, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any hair care product or service, in or affecting commerce, as "commerce," is defined in the Federal Trade Commission Act, do forthwith cease and desist from:

#### A. Representing, directly or by implication, that

- (1) The use of the product or service will prevent, cure, relieve, reverse, or reduce hair loss; or
- (2) The use of the product or service will promote the growth of hair where hair already has been lost,

unless, at the time of making such representation, respondents possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that substantiates the representation.

B. Manufacturing, advertising, labeling, packaging, promoting, offering for sale, selling, or distributing any product that is represented as promoting hair growth or preventing hair loss, unless the product is the subject of an approved new drug application for such purpose under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 301 et seq., provided that, this requirement shall not limit the requirements of order paragraphs III or IV.A. herein.

V.

It is further ordered, That respondents, their successors and assigns, and their officers, agents, representatives, and employees, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division or other device, in connection with the manufacturing, advertising, labeling,

packaging, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any product in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in the Federal Trade Commission Act, do forthwith cease and desist from making any representation, directly or by implication, that any such product:

- A. Cures, treats, prevents, or reduces the risk of developing any disease, disorder or condition in humans or relieves symptoms thereof;
- B. Provides any weight loss or weight control benefit or otherwise provides an effective treatment for obesity;
- C. Suppresses appetite, reduces the body's absorption of calories, stimulates metabolism, or reduces serum cholesterol;
- D. Cures, treats, prevents, or reduces the risk of benign prostatic hypertrophy;
- E. Promotes greater muscular development, endurance, strength, power, definition, or stamina, or shorter exercise recovery or recuperation time in a user than a non-user of such product;
  - F. Removes or diminishes dark circles under the eyes;
- G. Improves mental clarity, mental concentration, mental comprehension, mental retention or mental alertness;
- H. Aids digestion or promotes increased absorption of nutrients from ingested foods;
  - I. Relieves stress or promotes relaxation; or
  - J. Prevents, relieves or treats fatigue or boosts energy;

unless, at the time of making such representation, respondents possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that substantiates the representation.

Provided, however, that respondents shall not be liable under this paragraph for any representation contained on a package label or package insert for a product that meets all of the following conditions:

- 1. The product is manufactured and distributed by a third party and is not manufactured or distributed exclusively for respondents;
  - 2. The product is generally available at competing retail outlets;
- 3. The product is not identified with respondents and does not contain respondents' names or logos;
- 4. The product was not developed or manufactured at the instigation or with the assistance of respondents; and,

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Decision and Order

5. The product representation is not otherwise advertised or promoted by respondents.

Provided further, that the proviso in the preceding paragraph is currently identical to the "safe harbor" proviso contained in paragraph V. of the order in General Nutrition, Inc., Docket No. 9175, entered February 2, 1989. It is the intention of the parties to the order herein that the provisos shall remain identical. Therefore, except upon respondents filing a petition to reopen the proceeding herein and making a satisfactory showing that changed conditions of law or fact or the public interest warrants modification of the order herein by the Commission, respondents agree to be bound by any subsequent modifications (including vacation) of the safe harbor proviso in Docket No. 9175, without any further formal modification of the instant order.

#### VI.

It is further ordered, That nothing in this order shall prohibit respondents, their successors and assigns, and their officers, agents, representatives, and employees, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division or other device, from making any representation that is specifically permitted in labeling for any product by regulations promulgated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) pursuant to the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act of 1990; moreover, nothing in this order shall prohibit respondents, their successors and assigns, and their officers, agents, representatives, and employees, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division or other device, from making any representation for any drug that is permitted in labeling for any drug under any tentative final or final standard promulgated by the Food and Drug Administration, or under any new drug application approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

#### VII.

It is further ordered, That respondents, their successors and assigns, and their officers, agents, representatives, and employees, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division or other device, in connection with the manufacturing, advertising, labeling,

packaging, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any product in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in the Federal Trade Commission Act, do forthwith cease and desist from:

- 1. Using the name "Sleeper's Diet" or any other brand name that represents, directly or by implication, that such product has the ability to promote weight loss during sleep;
- 2. Using the name "Memory Booster" or any other brand name that represents, directly or by implication, that such product improves memory retention;
- 3. Using the name "Dark Circle Eye Treatment" or any other brand name that represents, directly or by implication, that such product removes dark circles from under the eyes; or
- 4. Using the name "Super Fat Burners" or any other brand name that represents, directly or by implication, that such product reduces body fat

unless, at the time of making such representation, respondents possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that substantiates the representation.

#### VIII.

It is further ordered, That respondents, their successors and assigns, shall pay to the Federal Trade Commission, by cashier's check or certified check made payable to the Federal Trade Commission and delivered to the Associate Director for Enforcement, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, 6th and Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC, the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000). Respondents shall make this payment on or before the tenth day following the date of issuance of this order. In the event of any default on any obligation to make payment under this section, interest, computed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1961(a), shall accrue from the date of default to the date of payment. The funds paid by respondents shall, in the discretion of the Federal Trade Commission, be used to provide direct redress to consumers allegedly injured by respondents in connection with the acts or practices alleged in the complaint, and to pay any attendant costs of administration. If the Federal Trade Commission determines, in its sole discretion, that redress to consumers is impracticable or unwarranted, any funds not used for redress shall be paid to the United States Treasury. Respondents shall be notified as to how the funds are distributed, but shall have no right to contest the manner of distribution chosen by the Commission.

#### IX.

It is further ordered, That, for five (5) years after the last date of dissemination of any representation covered by this order, respondents, or their successors and assigns, shall maintain and upon request make available to the Federal Trade Commission for inspection and copying:

- 1. All labeling, packaging, advertisements and promotional materials setting forth any representation covered by this order;
- 2. All materials that were relied upon by respondents to substantiate any representation covered by this order; and
- 3. All test reports, studies, surveys, demonstrations or other evidence in their possession or control that contradict, qualify, or call into question such representation or the basis upon which respondents relied for such representation, including complaints from consumers.

#### X.

It is further ordered, That for a period of ten (10) years after service upon them of this order, respondents, their successors and assigns, shall notify the Federal Trade Commission at least thirty (30) days prior to any proposed change in the respondents such as dissolution, assignment, or sale resulting in the emergence of a successor corporation, the creation or dissolution of subsidiaries or any other change in the corporations that may affect compliance obligations arising under this order.

#### XI.

It is further ordered, That the respondents shall distribute a copy of this order to each of their operating divisions, to each of their officers, agents, representatives, or employees engaged in the preparation and placement of advertisements, promotional materials, product labels or other such sales materials covered by this order, and

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to all distributors of products manufactured or marketed by respondents.

#### XII.

It is further ordered, That respondents shall, within sixty (60) days after service of this order, file with the Commission a report, in writing, setting forth in detail the manner and form in which they have complied or intend to comply with this order.

Commissioner Azcuenaga dissenting.

#### STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MARY L. AZCUENAGA

I dissent from the Commission's decision to issue a final decision and order against Nature's Bounty and its subsidiaries, Puritan's Pride, Inc., and Vitamin World, Inc., because the order leaves the respondents free to sell products they know, or should know, are deceptively labeled.

The proviso in paragraph V of the order states that the respondents would not necessarily be liable for false or unsubstantiated claims appearing on the labels or in the packaging of the products sold at its stores, even if it were clear that the companies had actual knowledge that those claims were unsubstantiated or untrue. I believe that the order should have provided that the respondents would be liable if they know, or should know, that the labels or packaging of any such product contains false or unsubstantiated claims.

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Complaint

#### IN THE MATTER OF

# ELI LILLY AND COMPANY, INC.

# CONSENT ORDER, ETC., IN REGARD TO ALLEGED VIOLATION OF SEC. 7 OF THE CLAYTON ACT AND SEC. 5 OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION ACT

Docket C-3594, Complaint, July 28, 1995--Decision, July 28, 1995

This consent order requires, among other things, an Indiana producer of pharmaceutical products to: ensure that the acquired company, PCS Health Systems (PCS), maintains an open formulary; appoint an independent Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee of health care professionals to objectively evaluate drugs for inclusion in the PCS open formulary; and, ensure that PCS accepts all discounts, rebates or other concessions offered by Eli Lilly's competitors for drugs that are accepted for listing on the open formulary, and to accurately reflect such discounts in ranking the drugs on the formulary. Pursuant to the modification of the proposed consent agreement, Eli Lilly would only need to obtain prior approval for an exclusive distribution agreement with McKesson Corporation. In addition, the consent order prohibits PCS and Eli Lilly from sharing proprietary or other non-public information, such as price data, obtained from Eli Lilly competitors whose drugs may be placed on a PCS formulary.

# **Appearances**

For the Commission: *Michael D. McNeely* and *Kenneth A. Libby*. For the respondent: *Jack Kaufman, Dewey Ballantine*, New York, N.Y.

#### **COMPLAINT**

The Federal Trade Commission, having reason to believe that respondent Eli Lilly and Company ("Lilly"), a corporation subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, has entered into agreements with McKesson Corporation ("McKesson") that violate Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 45, that pursuant to these agreements, Lilly has commenced a cash tender offer to acquire all outstanding common shares of McKesson and intends to merge McKesson into a subsidiary of Lilly following the cash tender offer, which cash tender offer, acquisition and merger would, if consummated, violate Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as

amended, 15 U.S.C. 18, and Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 45, and that a proceeding by it in respect thereof would be in the public interest, hereby issues its complaint pursuant to Section 11 of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. 21, and Section 5(b) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 45, stating its charges as follows:

PARAGRAPH 1. Respondent Eli Lilly and Company is a corporation organized, existing and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Indiana, with its principal office located at Lilly Corporate Center, Indianapolis, Indiana.

- PAR. 2. Lilly is engaged in the development, production and sale of pharmaceutical products, including Prozac, an antidepressant (specifically, a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor); Humulin, an injectable insulin; Ceclor, an oral antibiotic; and Axid, an anti-ulcer product (specifically, an H2 antagonist).
- PAR. 3. McKesson Corporation is a corporation organized, existing and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Delaware, with its principal office located at One Post Street, San Francisco, California.
- PAR. 4. Through its subsidiary PCS Health Systems, Inc. ("PCS"), McKesson is engaged in the business of providing pharmacy benefit management services to insurance companies, third party payors, and other members of the healthcare industry.
- PAR. 5. At all times relevant herein, respondent Lilly has been, and is now, engaged in commerce as "commerce" is defined in Section 1 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 12, and is a corporation whose business is in or affecting commerce as "commerce" is defined in Section 4 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 44.
- PAR. 6. Lilly and McKesson entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger on July 10, 1994, pursuant to which Lilly commenced a cash tender offer for all outstanding shares of McKesson's common stock for \$76 per share. Following the cash tender offer, Lilly intends to merge McKesson into a subsidiary of Lilly. The total value of the cash tender offer is approximately \$3.4 billion.
- PAR. 7. A relevant line of commerce within which to analyze the effects of this acquisition is the provision of pharmacy benefit management ("PBM") services by national full-service PBM firms, and any narrower markets contained therein. Other relevant lines of

commerce within which to analyze the effects of this acquisition are the development, manufacture and sale of pharmaceutical products in specific therapeutic categories, and narrower markets contained therein (including, but not limited to, the markets for injectable insulin, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, antidepressants, H2 antagonists, and anti-ulcer drugs).

PAR. 8. A relevant section of the country within which to analyze the effects of this acquisition is the United States.

PAR. 9. The relevant market for PBM services by national full-service PBM firms, as well as the relevant markets for pharmaceutical products in specific therapeutic categories, are highly concentrated.

PAR. 10. There are substantial entry barriers into the relevant markets. Even if new entry were to occur, it would take a long time, during which time substantial harm to competition could occur.

PAR. 11. As part of its PBM services, PCS maintains a drug formulary, which is a listing, by therapeutic category, of ambulatory drug products that are approved for use by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration, and which is made available to pharmacies, physicians, third-party payors, and other persons, to guide in the prescribing and dispensing of pharmaceuticals. Lilly pharmaceutical products are included on the PCS formulary. PCS provides a variety of other PBM services, including claims processing, drug utilization review, pharmacy network administration, and related services. PCS negotiates with pharmaceutical manufacturers, including Lilly, concerning placement on the PCS formulary, rebates, discounts, prices to be paid for pharmaceutical products purchased pursuant to pharmacy benefit plans managed by PCS, and other issues. PCS thereby influences the prices of pharmaceutical products and the availability of such products under the PCS pharmacy benefit plans.

PAR. 12. The Agreement and Plan of Merger contain a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") in which Lilly and McKesson agreed to investigate closing Lilly's distribution centers and having McKesson handle physical distribution of Lilly products to wholesalers and possibly be the sole distributor of Lilly products. Implementation of this MOU would force wholesalers to deal with McKesson to obtain Lilly products or deny them access to Lilly products.

PAR. 13. The effects of the proposed acquisition of McKesson by Lilly may be substantially to lessen competition in the relevant markets in violation of Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 18, and Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 45, in the following ways, among others:

- (a) Products of manufacturers other than Lilly are likely to be foreclosed from the PCS formulary;
- (b) Reciprocal dealing, coordinated interaction, interdependent conduct, and tacit collusion among Lilly and other vertically integrated pharmaceutical companies will be enhanced;
- (c) PCS will be eliminated as an independent negotiator of pharmaceutical prices with manufacturers;
- (d) Incentives of other manufacturers to develop innovative pharmaceuticals will be diminished;
- (e) Entry into the relevant markets may be more difficult because it will require entry at more than one level;
- (f) Competition among drug wholesalers may be reduced because of the competitive advantage that control over Lilly drugs will provide McKesson; and,
- (g) The price of pharmaceuticals is likely to increase and the quality of the pharmaceuticals available to consumers is likely to diminish.
- PAR. 14. The proposed acquisition of McKesson by Lilly would, if consummated, violate Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 18, and Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 45.
- PAR. 15. The Agreement and Plan of Merger between Lilly and McKesson violates Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 45.

Commissioner Azcuenaga dissenting and Commissioner Starek recused.

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Federal Trade Commission ("Commission") having initiated an investigation of the proposed acquisition by respondent Eli Lilly and Company of the stock of McKesson Corporation, and the respondent having been furnished thereafter with a copy of a draft of complaint which the Bureau of Competition proposed to present to the Commission for its consideration and which, if issued by the Commission, would charge respondent with a violation of Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 45, and a violation of Section 7 of the Clayton Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 18; and

The respondent, its attorneys, and counsel for the Commission having thereafter executed an agreement containing a consent order, an admission by the respondent of all the jurisdictional facts set forth in the aforesaid draft of complaint, a statement that the signing of said agreement is for settlement purposes only and does not constitute an admission by respondent that the law has been violated as alleged in such complaint, or that the facts as alleged in such complaint, other than jurisdictional facts, are true and waivers and other provisions as required by the Commission's Rules; and

The Commission having thereafter considered the matter and having determined that it had reason to believe that the respondent has violated the said Acts, and that a complaint should issue stating its charges in that respect, and having thereupon accepted the executed consent agreement and placed such agreement on the public record for a period of sixty (60) days, and having duly considered the comments received, now in further conformity with the procedure prescribed in Section 2.34 of its Rules, the Commission hereby issues its complaint, makes the following jurisdictional findings and enters the following order:

- 1. Respondent Eli Lilly and Company ("Lilly") is a corporation organized, existing and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Indiana, with its office and principal place of business located at Lilly Corporate Center, in the City of Indianapolis, State of Indiana.
- 2. The Federal Trade Commission has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this proceeding and of the respondent, and the proceeding is in the public interest.

#### **ORDER**

I.

It is ordered, That the following definitions shall apply herein:

- A. "Respondent" or "Lilly" means Eli Lilly and Company, its predecessors, divisions, subsidiaries, affiliates, partnerships, joint ventures, successors and assigns, and all directors, officers, employees, agents and representatives of the foregoing.
- B. "McKesson" means McKesson Corporation, its predecessors, divisions, subsidiaries, affiliates, partnerships, joint ventures, successors and assigns, and all directors, officers, employees, agents and representatives of the foregoing.
- C. "PCS" means PCS Health Systems, Inc., its predecessors, divisions, subsidiaries, affiliates, partnerships, joint ventures, successors and assigns, and all directors, officers, employees, agents and representatives of the foregoing.
  - D. "Commission" means the Federal Trade Commission.
- E. "Formulary" means a listing, by therapeutic category, of branded and generic ambulatory drug products that are approved for use by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration ("FDA"), and which is made available to pharmacies, physicians, third-party payors, or other persons involved in the healthcare industry, to guide in the prescribing or dispensing of pharmaceuticals. An "Open Formulary" is a formulary that allows the inclusion of any ambulatory prescription drug product approved by the FDA for use in the United States, which the P&T Committee (defined below) determines is appropriate for inclusion in such formulary. For purposes of this order, an Open Formulary may provide truthful information stating or indicating the relative costs or benefits of drugs on the formulary.
- F. "Pharmacy Benefit Management Services" or "PBM Services" means services provided by a pharmacy benefits manager, such as formulary services, negotiation of rebates or discounts from pharmaceutical manufacturers, prescription claims processing, and drug utilization review.
- G. "Formulary Services" means the provision, development, establishment, management or maintenance of a formulary by a pharmacy benefits manager. For purposes of this order, "management" of a formulary includes the negotiation and administration of rebate or discount agreements with pharmaceutical manufacturers for drugs included on a formulary.
- H. "Lilly Non-Public Information" means information not in the public domain that is provided to Lilly in its capacity as a pharmaceutical manufacturer by a supplier of PBM Services and that

concerns bids, proposals, contracts, prices, rebates, discounts, or other terms or conditions of sale of any person other than PCS.

- I. "PCS Non-Public Information" means information not in the public domain that is provided to PCS in its capacity as a supplier of PBM Services by a manufacturer or seller of prescription drug products and that concerns bids, proposals, contracts, prices, rebates, discounts, or other terms or conditions of sale of any person other than Lilly.
- J. "Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee" or "P&T Committee" means a group of healthcare professionals, such as doctors, pharmacists, and pharmacologists, appointed for the purpose of evaluating prescription drug products for inclusion on a formulary.

II.

# It is ordered, That respondent:

- A. Within thirty (30) days from the date this order becomes final, Lilly shall cause PCS to maintain an Open Formulary. As of the date this order becomes final, the PCS "Clinical Formulary and Prescribing Guidelines 1994-1995," shall be deemed an Open Formulary that complies with this paragraph II.A.
- B. Within thirty (30) days from the date this order becomes final, Lilly shall cause PCS to appoint an independent P&T Committee with the authority and responsibility to maintain the Open Formulary required by paragraph II.A above. Such P&T Committee shall make all decisions concerning the inclusion of drugs on such Open Formulary, the exclusion of drugs from such Open Formulary, and the clinical and therapeutic advice and evaluation concerning drugs on such Open Formulary, and shall operate according to the following provisions:
- 1. Such P&T Committee shall consist of at least nine (9) members, all of whom shall be physicians, pharmacists, pharmacologists, or other healthcare professionals.
- 2. A majority of the P&T Committee shall consist of persons who are not employees, officers, directors, or agents of, and who have no financial interest in: (a) Lilly, (b) PCS, or (c) any other person who has an ownership interest in Lilly or PCS. Such persons shall be referred to herein as "independent" members of the P&T Committee.

- 3. Each independent member of the P&T Committee shall have one vote on all decisions of the P&T Committee.
- 4. All members of the P&T Committee who are employees, officers, directors, or agents of, or who have a financial interest in, Lilly, PCS, or any other person who has an ownership interest in Lilly or PCS, shall not be entitled to vote on decisions of the P&T Committee.
- 5. All independent members of the P&T Committee shall be appointed for three-year terms, except that for the initial board, one-third of the independent members shall be appointed for one-year terms, one-third shall be appointed for two-year terms, and the remaining independent members shall be appointed for three-year terms. At the expiration of their terms, or upon the occurrence of a vacancy, members may be reappointed, or new members may be appointed, by a majority of the then-appointed independent members of the P&T Committee.
- 6. No independent member of the P&T Committee may be removed except for cause by vote of a majority of the independent members of the P&T Committee.
- 7. In performing its responsibilities in maintaining the Open Formulary, the P&T Committee shall utilize only criteria relating to safety, efficacy, FDA approved indications, side effects, contraindications, pharmacokinetics, patient compliance, physician follow-up requirements, effect on emergency room visits and hospitalizations, laboratory tests, cost, and similar objective factors. Such P&T Committee shall give no preference to the products of Lilly, or of any other person with an ownership interest in PCS, except on the basis of such objective criteria.
- 8. Lilly shall cause PCS to cover the costs and expenses of the P&T Committee, and Lilly shall cause PCS to indemnify the P&T Committee against any losses or claims of any kind that might arise out of its performance of functions under this order, except to the extent that such losses or claims result from misfeasance, gross negligence, willful or wanton acts, or bad faith.
- 9. Such P&T Committee shall maintain written records, for five (5) years from the date thereof, explaining the basis and rationale for all P&T Committee decisions relating to the exclusion of any products from, or the ranking of products on, the Open Formulary required by paragraph II.A.

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#### Decision and Order

- C. Lilly shall cause PCS to accept all discounts, rebates or other concessions offered by any manufacturer, seller or distributor of pharmaceutical products included by the P&T Committee on the Open Formulary, and Lilly shall cause PCS to ensure that all such discounts, rebates, or concessions are truthfully and accurately reflected in determining relative rankings of products on the Open Formulary.
- D. Nothing in this order shall preclude PCS from offering any formulary other than the Open Formulary to any customer.
- E. Lilly shall cause PCS to provide a copy of this order to each member of the P&T Committee on or before the date of each such person's appointment to such P&T Committee.

#### III.

# It is further ordered, That:

- A. Lilly shall not provide, disclose, or otherwise make available to PCS any Lilly Non-Public Information; and
- B. PCS shall not provide, disclose, or otherwise make available to Lilly any PCS Non-Public Information.

## IV.

It is further ordered, That Lilly shall retain all documents, and shall cause PCS to separately retain all documents, that relate to (A) the exclusion of any prescription drug products from the Open Formulary required by paragraph II.A above, (B) any preference or ranking accorded to any prescription drug product on the Open Formulary required by paragraph II.A above, or (C) statements or indications of discounts, rebates, or other concessions, as described in paragraph II.C above, for a period of five (5) years from the date such document is created or received.

#### V.

It is further ordered, That Lilly shall disclose the availability of the Open Formulary as follows:

A. Lilly shall cause PCS to disclose the availability of the Open Formulary to all persons who currently have an agreement with PCS concerning PBM services or concerning the inclusion of pharmaceuticals on a formulary, by providing to each such person a letter containing the following statement within ten (10) days after initiation of contact between PCS and such person regarding renewal or extension of such person's existing agreement with PCS:

PCS maintains an Open Formulary that allows, subject to the determination of an independent Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, the inclusion of any ambulatory prescription drug product approved by the FDA for use in the United States. This Open Formulary will be provided to you upon request.

B. For a period of five (5) years from the date this order becomes final, Lilly shall cause PCS to provide in writing the statement set forth in paragraph V.A above to each prospective customer of PCS at the time of PCS's response to such prospective customer's request for proposal, or at the time of PCS's initial written proposal to such prospective customer, whichever occurs first.

#### VI.

It is further ordered, That, for a period of five (5) years from the date this order becomes final, respondent shall not, without the prior approval of the Commission, directly or indirectly, through subsidiaries, partnerships, or otherwise, enter into any agreement, understanding, or condition with McKesson that Lilly will sell or distribute pharmaceutical products bearing any brand or trade name used by Lilly, in the United States or any part of the United States, exclusively through McKesson.

# VII.

It is further ordered, That respondent shall notify the Commission at least thirty (30) days prior to any proposed change in the corporate respondent such as dissolution, assignment, sale resulting in the emergence of a successor corporation, or the creation or dissolution of subsidiaries or any other change in the corporation that may affect compliance obligations arising out of the order.

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Decision and Order

#### VIII.

# It is further ordered, That:

- A. Within sixty (60) days after the date this order becomes final, respondent shall submit to the Commission a verified written report setting forth in detail the manner and form in which it intends to comply, is complying, and has complied with this order.
- B. One year (1) from the date this order becomes final, annually for the next nine (9) years on the anniversary of the date this order becomes final, and at other times as the Commission may require, respondent shall file a verified written report with the Commission setting forth in detail the manner and form in which it has complied and is complying with this order.
- C. Respondent shall include in its compliance reports a copy of the Open Formulary required by paragraph II.A above, and all written communications, internal memoranda, and reports and recommendations concerning compliance with the order.

#### IX.

It is further ordered, That, for the purpose of determining or securing compliance with this order, respondent shall permit any duly authorized representative of the Commission:

- A. Access, during office hours and in the presence of counsel, to inspect and copy all books, ledgers, accounts, correspondence, memoranda and other records and documents in the possession or under the control of respondent relating to any matters contained in this order; and
- B. Upon five days' notice to respondent and without restraint or interference from it, to interview officers, directors, or employees of respondent.

Χ.

It is further ordered, That this order shall terminate ten (10) years from the date this order becomes final.

Statement

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Commissioner Azcuenaga dissenting and Commissioner Starek recused.

#### STATEMENT OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission has determined to approve and issue as final, with two modifications, the consent order ("order") agreed to with Eli Lilly and Company ("Lilly") in connection with its acquisition of PCS Health Systems, Inc. from McKesson Corporation. We reached this decision after careful and thorough consideration of the public comments received and discussions with consumer and industry representatives.

The Commission believes that, based on the evidence currently before it, this order provides the most appropriate relief available. Nevertheless, in light of the rapidly evolving nature of the markets for pharmaceutical products and pharmacy benefits management ("PBM"), the Commission remains concerned that this acquisition, together with other vertical integration in these markets, could lead to anticompetitive consequences that require additional relief. Thus, the Commission will continue to monitor this industry carefully, both through ongoing investigations and Lilly's compliance obligations under the order. More specifically, the Commission will assess, among other things:

- (1) The extent and effects of foreclosure of the products of other pharmaceutical manufacturers, especially those not vertically integrated with a PBM;
- (2) Whether, and to what extent, vertical integration in this industry fosters anticompetitive reciprocal dealing, coordinated interaction, or interdependent conduct among the vertically integrated firms; and
- (3) Whether vertical integration among pharmaceutical manufacturers and PBMs increases the prices or diminishes the availability of pharmaceuticals to consumers.

If the Commission concludes that competition is being reduced as a result of these vertical arrangements, it will seek appropriate relief against any firms engaged in anticompetitive conduct, including if necessary post-acquisition divestitures. The Commission may, of course, subsequently reopen a judgment in this or any matter "whenever in the opinion of the Commission conditions of fact or law have so changed as to require such action or if the public interest shall so require." 15 U.S.C. 45(b); see 15 U.S.C. 21(b). The Commission believes that this course of action is both prudent and appropriate, given the significant and ongoing changes occurring in this segment of the health care industry.

Because the Commission has recently adopted a policy limiting the imposition of prior approvals, paragraphs VI(a) and VI(b) of the proposed order, which required Lilly to obtain prior approval before acquiring another PBM, have been eliminated. The acquisition of another PBM in the relevant market by Lilly would likely require premerger notification under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act. 15 U.S.C. 18a. The Commission has modified paragraph VI of the order to require Lilly to obtain prior approval before distributing pharmaceuticals through an exclusive arrangement with McKesson, rather than through any exclusive arrangement with a wholesaler.

#### DISSENTING STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MARY L. AZCUENAGA

Today, the Commission accepts a consent order that is simultaneously inadequate to remedy the potential competitive harm from Eli Lilly and Company, Inc.'s acquisition of PCS Health Systems, Inc. ("PCS") from McKesson Corporation and overreaching in that it imposes restrictions on Lilly without a coherent theory of competitive harm. I dissent because the order does not resolve the competitive concern raised by the acquisition and because it encumbers the company with pointless and unnecessary restrictions. The Statement of the Commission, which holds out the possibility of further investigations and monitoring, implicitly reflects a lack of confidence in the remedial value of the order.

Paragraph thirteen of the complaint identifies several ways in which the proposed acquisition may substantially lessen competition. The most specific and plausible theory of violation is described in paragraph thirteen C of the complaint, which alleges that the acquisition eliminates PCS as "an independent negotiator of pharmaceutical prices with manufacturers." PCS is a pharmacy benefits manager (PBM) and provides administrative services for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Dissenting Statement of Commissioner Mary L. Azcuenaga (on the occasion of accepting the consent order for public comment), Eli Lilly and Company, Inc., File No. 941-0102 (Nov. 4, 1994) (attached and incorporated by reference).

pharmacy benefits plans to insurers, third party payers, and others. As alleged in paragraph eleven of the complaint, one service provided by a PBM is to negotiate, on behalf of the benefit plans, with pharmaceutical manufacturers regarding the price paid for drugs purchased through the plans.

The price negotiation function of a PBM, such as PCS, has competitive significance because PBMs, acting on behalf of many pharmacy benefits plans covering millions of covered patients, apparently have been successful in negotiating low prices for pharmaceuticals. Since the consent order is being entered without an administrative trial, we do not have a record sufficient to assess the role of PCS (and that of other PBMs) in bargaining for low drug prices. Based on the limited information presently available, it seems possible that PBMs may have been able to act as power buyers by aggregating the purchasing power of millions of covered patients and using this leverage to negotiate competitive prices. After the merger, PCS will continue to negotiate on behalf of its millions of covered patients. The merger, however, may alter the incentives of a Lillyowned PCS. Lilly's role as a major drug producer may temper PCS's enthusiasm for bargaining down pharmaceutical prices. Lilly may be unwilling to lower prices and forgo profits on its own drugs sold through PCS, and a Lilly-owned PCS may hesitate to give any preference to a Lilly competitor in reward for low prices.

Assuming that the Commission has reason to believe that the merger violates Section 7 on the basis of this theory, the consent order provides no remedy. The order does nothing to preserve the role of PCS as an independent bargaining agent on behalf of pharmaceutical consumers. Section II of the order requires Lilly to offer an open formulary and to accept whatever discounts sellers may choose to offer, but passive acceptance of proffered discounts is hardly the same thing as aggressively pursuing price reductions. To the extent that the theory of competitive harm alleged in paragraph thirteen C of the complaint has merit, the order does not remedy the harm to competition.

A second theory of violation is contained in paragraph thirteen A of the complaint, which alleges that "[p]roducts of manufacturers other than Lilly are likely to be foreclosed from the PCS formulary." Although cases such as *United States Steel v. FTC*, 426 F.2d (6th Cir. 1970) (vertical market foreclosure resulting from a vertical merger deemed to be anticompetitive), support the theory of violation in

paragraph thirteen A, reliance on such cases ignores subsequent scholarly and judicial repudiation of the vertical foreclosure theory.

The Commission's apparent resuscitation of this theory calls for an explanation. Although the Commission used the foreclosure theory to challenge vertical mergers in the 1970's,<sup>2</sup> the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit decisively rejected it in 1979. Freuhauf Corp. v. FTC, 603 F.2d 345 (2d Cir. 1979). The court was unwilling to rely on vertical foreclosure alone as a basis for liability. 603 F.2d at 352 and 352 n.9. It observed that "[a] showing of some probable anticompetitive impact is still essential . . . . " 603 F.2d at 353. Antitrust commentators also have criticized the foreclosure approach.<sup>3</sup> The Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit agreed with the scholarly criticism and rejected the vertical foreclosure theory. Alberta Gas Chemicals v. E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Co., 826 F.2d 1235 (3d Cir. 1987), cert. denied, 486 U.S. 1059 (1988).<sup>4</sup>

A truly effective prohibition on foreclosure of Lilly's competitors may preclude a closed formulary from achieving efficiencies. Closing a formulary may be essential to achieve certain efficiencies. By steering all patients to one of several equivalent drugs, the PBM may be able to negotiate a highly favorable, low price with a manufacturer by offering a large number of purchasers of that drug. Absent the ability to steer patients to one of several equivalent products, the PBM would lack negotiating leverage. In an analogous situation, the Commission's staff has opposed state legislation to require medical plans to deal with "any willing provider." The staff's argument has been that requiring a plan to deal with any pharmacy (or other provider) willing to provide the services diminishes the incentives of pharmacies to compete to secure places in the provider network and thereby drives up consumer prices. At this point, we lack empirical evidence establishing that closed formularies are able to realize similar efficiencies, but the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See, e.g., Ash Grove Cement v. FTC, 577 F.2d 1368 (9th Cir. 1975), cert, denied, 439 U.S. 982 (1978)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See, e.g., 4 P. Areeda & D. Turner, Antitrust law ¶ 1004 at 211 (1980); R. Bork, The Antitrust Paradox 226, 237 (1978); Page, Antitrust Damages and Economic Efficiency, 47 U. Chi. L. Rev. 467, 495 (1980).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> But see generally United States v. American Cyanamid Co., 719 F.2d 558 (2d Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 465 U.S. 1101 (1984).

Letter to The Honorable Roger Madigan, The Senate of Pennsylvania, from the staff of the Federal Trade Commission, April 19, 1993; Letter to The Honorable E. Scott Garrett, Chairman, Assembly Insurance Committee of the New Jersey State Assembly from the staff of the Federal Trade Commission, March 29, 1993.

Commission staff's analysis of any willing provider provisions suggests that closed formularies may realize efficiencies.

Reliance on the theory of vertical foreclosure, given its history, seems to cry out for an explanation why the Commission is reviving it. Recent economic literature has suggested that under certain narrow conditions vertical arrangements may have harmful horizontal competitive effects.<sup>6</sup> The complaint alleges the foreclosure "from the PCS formulary" as an anticompetitive effect, standing alone, which allegation does not appear to reflect the potential issue addressed in the economics literature. The complaint does not allege that the "PCS formulary" is a relevant antitrust market, and it does not (and insofar as I can tell, could not) allege that any relevant antitrust market, such as the markets for antidepressants, injectable insulin, H2 antagonists, or antiulcer drugs, will be totally (or even significantly) foreclosed to any competitor. Sales of these drugs through PCS account for only a portion of sales through PBM companies, and sales of these drugs through all PBMs are only a fraction of all drugs sold through the various channels of distribution. In short, PCS accounts for only a fraction of total United States drug sales, and it is not self evident what impact, if any, the merger has on the relevant markets for drugs alleged in paragraph seven of the complaint. including the markets for antidepressants, injectable insulin, H2 antagonists, or antiulcer drugs (or any other relevant markets).

Even assuming that the vertical foreclosure theory is sound, the remedy, which is to require Lilly to offer an open formulary, is singularly ineffective. A PBM's formulary is a list of drugs approved or recommended for particular therapeutic purposes. The formulary is made available to physicians, pharmacists, and others who treat patients covered by health plans using the PBM's services. A formulary is open if it includes all drugs recommended for treatment of a condition covered by the benefit plan. A closed or restricted formulary may limit reimbursement under the benefit plan to certain approved drugs, or may employ other incentives to encourage the use of a particular product in the treatment of a medical condition.

Although the Commission's order requires Lilly/PCS to offer an open formulary, it does nothing to ensure that PCS's open formulary remains an economically attractive or even viable option for benefit

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See e.g., Riordan and Salop, "Evaluating Vertical Mergers: A Post-Chicago Approach," 63 Antitrust Law J. 513 (1995); Janusz Ordover, Garth Saloner & Steven Salop, "Equilibrium Vertical Foreclosure," 80 Am. Econ. Rev. 127 (1990); Steven Salop & David Scheffman, "Cost-Raising Strategies," 36 J. Indus. Econ. 19 (1987).

plans to select. Under the order, PCS is free to offer a high priced open formulary and a closed formulary with lower prices. Simply by adjusting the relative prices of the open and closed formularies, Lilly/PCS should be able to shift sales from one formulary to another. Even if Lilly concludes that it is commercially advantageous for PCS to offer an open formulary at an attractive price, PCS is free to shift patients away from other drugs to Lilly products. For example, PCS might waive copayments by end users for Lilly drugs, while requiring copayments on competing drugs, or it might promote Lilly products directly to physicians and pharmacists. To the extent that the Commission finds reason to believe that foreclosure from "the PCS formulary" is anticompetitive, the Commission's order does not solve the problem.

Third, paragraph thirteen E of the complaint alleges that "[e]ntry into the relevant markets may be more difficult because it will require entry at more than one level." This is a theoretically plausible competitive effect from a vertical merger that I would support in an appropriate case. Here, however, the alleged foreclosure resulting from this acquisition is not remotely related to the established standards for proving this competitive effect. Section 4.2 of the Department of Justice 1984 Merger Guidelines, which the Commission adopted by reference in joining the Statement Accompanying the Release of Revised Merger Guidelines in April 1992, sets forth the standard for evaluating this competitive effect. Section 4.2 states, as one "necessary" condition for this anticompetitive effect, that "the degree of vertical integration between the two markets must be so extensive that" entrants to one market must also enter the second market simultaneously. A second prerequisite is that the need for entry at the secondary level must make primary level entry "significantly more difficult and less likely to occur." In addition, competitive conditions in the primary market must be sufficiently conducive to noncompetitive performance that the increased difficulty of entry is a matter of concern. Even if these conditions are satisfied, the Merger Guidelines indicate that an antitrust challenge is unlikely if sales by unintegrated firms in the secondary market are sufficient to service two minimum-efficientscale plants in the primary market.

The conclusory allegations of the complaint do not set forth a plausible claim under the standards in the 1984 Merger Guidelines. For example, the Guidelines adopt the standard of two minimum-

efficient-scale plants as a threshold level for an antitrust challenge. Although the complaint does not allege the size of efficient scale operations to produce the products identified in paragraph seven (injectable insulin, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, antidepressants, H2 antagonists and antiulcer drugs), the fact that a substantial proportion of total drug sales is made through non-PBM channels tends to mitigate any concern regarding the need for two level entry under the Guidelines. Furthermore, even assuming that a competing manufacturer of one primary product, say injectable insulin, would be foreclosed from sales through PCS, it does not follow that it would be foreclosed from sales through other PBMs, whether or not they are owned by a drug producer. Other vertically integrated PBMs would not necessarily be foreclosed to an unintegrated insulin supplier unless the PBM/drug manufacturer also produced insulin. In short, the complaint does not allege a prima facie case under the Guidelines.

Fourth, paragraph thirteen B of the complaint alleges that "[r]eciprocal dealing, coordinated interaction, interdependent conduct, and tacit collusion among Lilly and other vertically integrated pharmaceutical companies will be enhanced." These allegations evoke a sinister image without providing any explanation of what anticompetitive harms are likely and why this merger is likely substantially to lessen competition. Although under notice pleading little specificity is required in articulating a theory of harm to competition, and this is especially so in a complaint accompanying a consent order, I seriously question whether this allegation has any substance at all. In horizontal merger cases, when the Commission alleges that a merger lessens competition by enabling the firms in the relevant market to engage in coordinated interaction, that allegation reflects a carefully considered judgment based on established standards. Several substantial hurdles must be crossed before a judgment of anticompetitive effects will be reached. After markets are identified, the structure of the industry is examined, as are the likelihood of entry and efficiencies. Under Section 2.1 of the 1992 Horizontal Merger Guidelines, the Commission considers various conditions conducive to coordination. Careful allegations, well supported in fact, law and economic analysis, have served the Commission well in challenging horizontal mergers. Given that this vertical merger does not fit within a familiar template, it is particularly inappropriate to abandon careful consideration of competitive conditions in the relevant markets in favor of casual conclusions about competitive effects.

The allegations in paragraph thirteen B are so conclusory that it is difficult to pinpoint any coherent antitrust theory of liability. One antitrust concern relating to the pharmaceutical industry in general appears to be that Lilly/PCS may reach agreements with other vertically integrated drug manufacturer/PBM companies regarding inclusion on each other's formularies. That is, Lilly might agree, for example, to include Merck drugs on the PCS formularies in exchange for Merck's inclusion of Lilly drugs on the Medco formularies. If enough vertically integrated firms engaged in such reciprocal agreements and if they excluded drugs made by other firms from their formularies, then drug manufacturers that did not own a PBM (and thus were not part of a series of reciprocal deals) might be foreclosed from sales through many PBM firms. I agree that horizontal reciprocal deals that created a noncompetitive market might well raise serious antitrust concerns. If reciprocal agreements among integrated drug producers do produce anticompetitive results, an antitrust action under Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act would lie. I seriously question, however, whether on the present record, there is reason to believe that the anticompetitive practices are occurring or are likely to occur or that Lilly's acquisition of PCS would make them more likely. Even assuming that such a cartel of drug manufacturers is likely to be formed, the remedy in this order, which merely prohibits some limited information sharing between Lilly and PCS, is totally inadequate. If at some time in the future the Commission has reason to believe that this anticompetitive practice is occurring, I would suggest consideration of a much stronger remedy that is more related to the competitive harm. The other theories of violation alleged in paragraph thirteen of the complaint are even less compelling than those I have discussed.

Fifth, paragraph twelve of the complaint alleges that Lilly and McKesson have signed a memorandum of understanding "to investigate closing Lilly's distribution centers and having McKesson handle physical distribution of Lilly products to wholesalers and possibly be the sole distributor of Lilly products." Paragraph thirteen F of the complaint alleges that competition among drug wholesalers may be reduced "because of the competitive advantage that control over Lilly drugs will provide McKesson."

The memorandum of understanding is not an exclusive distribution agreement. It is not even an agreement to agree on an exclusive distribution arrangement. It is an agreement "to investigate" possible distribution arrangements in the future. In my view, there is no colorable factual basis to allege that competition in drug wholesale distribution is threatened because McKesson will control Lilly drugs. Indeed, the allegation that a major pharmaceutical manufacturer such as Lilly would hand over "control" of its products to McKesson seems so implausible that it begs for an explanation.

The Commission's hasty allegation of a Section 7 violation from the mere consideration of innovative, new distribution arrangements could chill consideration of efficient, procompetitive channels of delivering products to consumers. At this point, all we know is that McKesson and Lilly proposed to investigate a novel concept in distribution. Perhaps nothing would have come of the investigation, but perhaps the two firms could have found ways to save costs and improve efficiency. Because the Commission acted peremptorily and without the benefit of a specific proposal, the order could well chill consideration of innovative approaches to distribution.

The consent order imposes a five-year prior approval requirement on any exclusive distribution agreement between Lilly and McKesson. It is at least somewhat amusing that having recently abandoned its prior approval requirement in cases enjoining unlawful mergers (citing as one reason the cost of compliance),<sup>7</sup> the Commission chooses here to impose a prior approval requirement in the context of an acquisition that is being allowed to proceed and on the basis of a separate alleged violation that is only a gleam in the Commission's eye.

Lilly's acquisition of PCS followed several other acquisitions of PBMs by drug manufacturers that the Commission did not challenge. Although the elimination of PBMs as an independent force in the pharmaceutical marketplace would be a source of legitimate antitrust concern, the evidence does not come close to showing that this transaction would likely lead to such a result, and even assuming that it did, requiring PCS to maintain an open formulary would be no

Statement of Federal Trade Commission Policy Concerning Prior Approval and Prior Notice Provisions (June 21, 1995), Commissioner Azcuenaga dissenting in a separate statement. According to the Commission's Statement, "as a general matter, Commission orders will not include . . . prior approval . . . requirements . . . [except possibly] where there is a credible risk that a company . . . would, but for the provision, attempt the same or approximately the same merger." *Id.* at 2-3.

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solution. This order is no more than a fig leaf to conceal apparent indecision about the extent and nature of the competitive problem. Implementation of the bureaucratic provisions of the order will waste private resources and may provide a false sense of security that will lull us into complacency. Although I support the Commission's promise to continue monitoring the industry, the murky allegations in the complaint and the ineffective order are not an auspicious beginning. The allegation that the Lilly/McKesson agreement to investigate new distribution concepts is unlawful already has done its harm. That peremptory action, which is entirely unnecessary at this time, may cost consumers by blocking the exploration of innovative ideas for distribution.

I dissent.

# DISSENTING STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MARY L. AZCUENAGA

Today, the Commission accepts a consent order for public comment that exudes a lack of conviction in the underlying theory of competitive harm on which the order is based. The order does not cure the competitive problems alleged in the complaint. Three of the four primary provisions in the order are inadequate, and the fourth, which addresses a memorandum of understanding between Lilly and McKesson, is based on no colorable factual showing of a violation of law. In addition, there is no justification for making the duration of the order half that of other Commission orders. Finally, imposing this order without addressing similar acquisitions raises a question of evenhandedness and leaves unanswered the broader question of the competitive effect of vertical integration in this industry.

I dissent.

120 F.T.C.

#### IN THE MATTER OF

### IHI CLINICS, INC., ET AL.

# CONSENT ORDER, ETC., IN REGARD TO ALLEGED VIOLATION OF SEC. 5 OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION ACT

Docket C-3595, Complaint, Aug. 1, 1995--Decision, Aug. 1, 1995

This consent order prohibits, among other things, a Georgia corporation and its officers from misrepresenting the performance, success or efficacy of their smoking cessation, weight loss and maintenance seminars, or any such program, and from representing that the U.S. Government has rated their group hypnosis method as the best way to stop smoking. The consent order requires the respondents to possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence to substantiate any representation about the performance or efficacy of any smoking cessation or weight loss program, before they make such a claim.

# **Appearances**

For the Commission: *Matthew Daynard*.

For the respondents: Pro se.

# **COMPLAINT**

The Federal Trade Commission, having reason to believe that IHI Clinics, Inc. ("IHIC"), a corporation, Gordon Brick, individually and as an officer of said corporation, and Larry Brick, individually and as a former officer of said corporation ("respondents"), have violated the provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act, and it appearing to the Commission that a proceeding by it in respect thereof would be in the public interest, alleges:

PARAGRAPH 1. Respondent IHIC is a Georgia corporation, with its principal office and place of business at 1962 Carthage Road, Tucker, Georgia.

Respondent Gordon Brick is the sole officer, director and shareholder of the corporate respondent. Larry Brick is the former President of the corporate respondent. Together, they formulated, directed, and controlled the acts and practices of the corporate respondent, including the acts and practices alleged in this complaint.

Their principal office or place of business is the same as that of the corporate respondent.

- PAR. 2. Respondents have advertised, offered for sale, and sold seminars for smoking cessation and weight loss known as "The IHI Clinic Method of Hypnosis," and other stop-smoking and weight-loss seminars, to consumers. The IHI Clinic Method seminar consists of a single, group hypnosis session, approximately three hours in length, provided to consumers by Larry Brick at various sites throughout the United States.
- PAR. 3. The acts and practices of respondents alleged in this complaint have been in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in Section 4 of the Federal Trade Commission Act.
- PAR. 4. Respondents have disseminated or have caused to be disseminated advertisements for The IHI Clinic Method seminar, including but not necessarily limited to the attached Exhibit A. This advertisement contains the following statements:

SAVE HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS and RESTORE YOUR HEALTH . . . . STOP SMOKING IN JUST ONE EVENING! NO CRAVING . . . . NO STRESS .... NO WEIGHT GAIN .... The IHI Clinic Method of Hypnosis has helped thousands of smokers kick the habit. Of the smokers attending the seminar, over 95% will discard their cigarettes and Stop Smoking . . . . YOUR CRAVING FOR CIGARETTES IS GONE! . . . . Graduates of this seminar do everything they've done before, but they do it without smoking . . . . THIS PROGRAM ELIMINATES THE NEED, THE DESIRE, THE CRAVING AND THE URGE TO SMOKE. .... Even if you are currently using the patch, you should attend my program. I explain why the gum and patch don't work for most people. You'll find my program educational, informative, and most important - 95% effective. . . . You will be amazed at how easy and pleasant it is to overcome your desire for cigarettes ONCE AND FOR ALL . . . . You've tried to quit smoking many times before -you've tried everything. The gum, the patches, cold turkey, and EVEN WILL POWER - Nothing else has worked. My program will end your smoking habit forever! . . . . NO UNWANTED WEIGHT GAIN! . . . . This program helps you attain your goal weight and be a health conscious eater . . . LOSE WEIGHT FREE .... THOUSANDS BECOME NON-SMOKERS! Thousands of people just like you, with the same doubts, have gone before you and successfully stopped smoking with this guaranteed program . . . . THE U.S. GOVERNMENT RATES THESE PROGRAMS AS THE BEST WAY TO STOP SMOKING ....

PAR. 5. Through the use of statements contained in the advertisements referred to in paragraph four, including but not necessarily limited to the advertisement attached as Exhibit A, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that:

- A. Ninety-five percent or more of the participants who attend respondents' smoking cessation seminars permanently abstain from smoking after attending those seminars.
- B. The United States Government has rated the single-session, group hypnosis seminar used by respondents as the best way to stop smoking.

#### PAR. 6. In truth and in fact:

- A. Ninety-five percent or more of the participants who attend respondents' smoking cessation seminars do not permanently abstain from smoking after those seminars.
- B. The United States Government has not rated the singlesession, group hypnosis seminar used by respondents as the best way to stop smoking.

Therefore, the representations set forth in paragraph five were, and are, false and misleading.

- PAR. 7. Through the use of statements contained in the advertisements referred to in paragraph four, including but not necessarily limited to the advertisement attached as Exhibit A, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that:
- A. Participants who attend respondents' single-session group hypnosis seminar are cured of smoking addiction and permanently abstain from smoking cigarettes.
- B. Participants who attend respondents, single-session group hypnosis seminar are cured of smoking addiction without experiencing craving, stress or weight gain.
- C. Thousands of consumers have permanently quit smoking as a result of attending respondents' single-session, group hypnosis seminar.
- D. Respondents' single-session group hypnosis seminar is more efficacious for smoking cessation than other stop-smoking methods.
- PAR. 8. Through the use of the statements in the advertisements referred to in paragraph four, including but not necessarily limited to the advertisement attached as Exhibit A, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that at the time they made the representations set forth in paragraph seven, respondents possessed

and relied upon a reasonable basis that substantiated such representations.

- PAR. 9. In truth and in fact, at the time that they made the representations set forth in paragraph seven, respondents did not possess and rely upon a reasonable basis that substantiated such representations. Therefore, the representation set forth in paragraph eight was, and is, false and misleading.
- PAR. 10. Respondents have disseminated or have caused to be disseminated advertisements for The IHI Clinic Method seminar, including but not necessarily limited to the attached Exhibit B. This advertisement contains the following statements:

LOSE WEIGHT THRU HYPNOSIS . . . SAVE . . . FAST . . . WITHOUT DIETING . . . THE RESULTS ARE INCREDIBLE . . . Expect results ranging from 20 to 60 lbs. in as little as 3 months, to over 110 lbs. in one year . . . . You will lose the weight you wish to lose and keep it off permanently. The program works if you want to lose a little or a lot of weight. LOSE WEIGHT THE EASY WAY . . . DIETS DON'T WORK . . . Say goodbye to diets forever. Remember, you diet, lose weight and 6 months later its all gained back. The true solution is real behavior modification brought about by using the power of the subconscious mind. GAIN CONTROL OF YOUR EATING HABITS . . . . This program eliminates the need, the desire, the craving, and the urge to overeat. You will be free of impulsive or compulsive overeating. You will be able to pass up the non-healthy foods with little or no conscious effort. THIS PROGRAM WILL WORK FOR YOU! GUARANTEED . . . OUR WRITTEN GUARANTEE . . . You will lose the weight you wish to lose. If you don't, or if you ever need reinforcement, you'll be admitted to any IHI Clinics Weight Loss Session free of charge.

- PAR. 11. Through the use of statements contained in the advertisements referred to in paragraph ten, including but not necessarily limited to the advertisement attached as Exhibit B, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that:
- A. Participants who attend respondents' single-session group hypnosis seminar achieve and maintain weight loss.
- B. Participants who attend respondents' single-session group hypnosis seminar achieve weight loss quickly.
- C. Respondents' single-session group hypnosis seminar is more efficacious for weight loss and weight-loss maintenance than other weight-loss methods.

PAR. 12. Through the use of the statements in the advertisements referred to in paragraph ten, including but not necessarily limited to the advertisement attached as Exhibit B, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that at the time they made the representations set forth in paragraph eleven, respondents possessed and relied upon a reasonable basis that substantiated such representations.

PAR. 13. In truth and in fact, at the time that they made the representations set forth in paragraph eleven, respondents did not possess and rely upon a reasonable basis that substantiated such representations. Therefore, the representation set forth in paragraph twelve was, and is, false and misleading.

PAR. 14. Respondents have disseminated or have caused to be disseminated advertisements for The IHI Clinic Method seminar, including but not necessarily limited to the attached Exhibit A. This advertisement contains the following statements:

You too will have a bright Future as a NON-SMOKER!

#### **ENDORSEMENTS**

"My wife and I attended your seminar. I wanted to stop smoking and we both wanted to lose weight. Well I haven't smoked since then and we've both reached our weight goal..."

Bill and Kathy Woodfin, Lookout Mountain, TN

"I am a cocktail waitress and work around smokers constantly. I didn't think I could stop; but I did and their smoking doesn't bother me one bit. Also since your seminar, I've lost 12 pounds."

Jenny Thigpen, Macon, GA

"Before I attended your seminar, I was obsessed with cigarettes. I smoked 3 packs a day. I haven't had the slightest urge since then -- I am truly a non-smoker today. Many thanks for a better life."

Louise Ross, Tampa, FL

"I lost 38 pounds in seven weeks and it was really easy. I really feel great about myself."

Joe Casbarro, Tucker, GA

"I'd smoked for 36 years, two packs per day. Your seminar was a miracle for me -- I had no withdrawal at all."

George Myers, Tampa, FL

"Four of my fraternity brothers attended with me -- we all quit and we're even losing weight . . ."

Dick Middleton, Thomasville, GA

"It works. I have not smoked since the seminar. It was so easy."

Robert J. Adkins, Stockbridge, GA

PAR. 15. Through the use of statements contained in the advertisements referred to in paragraph fourteen, including but not necessarily limited to the advertisement attached as Exhibit A, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that testimonials from consumers appearing in advertisements for the IHI Clinic Method seminar reflect the typical or ordinary experience of members of the public who have attended the seminar.

PAR. 16. Through the use of the statements in the advertisements referred to in paragraph fourteen, including but not necessarily limited to the advertisement attached as Exhibit A, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that at the time they made the representation set forth in paragraph fifteen, respondents possessed and relied upon a reasonable basis that substantiated such representation.

PAR. 17. In truth and in fact, at the time that they made the representation set forth in paragraph fifteen, respondents did not possess and rely upon a reasonable basis that substantiated such representations. Therefore, the representation set forth in paragraph sixteen was, and is, false and misleading.

PAR. 18. The acts and practices of respondents as alleged in this complaint constitute unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce in violation of Section 5(a) of the Federal Trade Commission Act.

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#### **EXHIBIT A**



EXHIBIT A

#### **EXHIBIT A**





USING IHI Clinic's **METHOD** 

# You too will have a bright Future as a NON-SMOKER!

# **ENDORSEMENTS**

"I highly recommend this program to any one who imakes or needs help controlling their neight. I am encouraged to the programs results." Mary Jano Myers Roswell, GA

"My wife and I attended year seminar, I wanted to step making and we both wanted to see weight. Well I leave to remoded since then and we've both reached our weight goal. I do want to thank yoo for the new life we have.
We've never fits better."
Bill and Kathy Woodfin
Lookout Mountain, TN

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\*I'd moked for 36 years. two packs per day. Tour aminar was a miracle for me — I bad no withdrawal as all.\*

\*George Myors Tarripa, FL prinds." Jenny Thigpen Macon, GA

\*As first I was deprical, but new I am amazed as the results — I am zill a new maker.\*

Dr. Millicent Ann Dandridge Atlanta, GA

\*Before I attended year arminar, I was observed with eigenvested. I moded 3 packs a day. I haven't had the highests mye since them—I am truly a nan-smoker today. Many thunks for a better life. \*\*
Louison Room Tarrap's, FL.

"I les 38 pounds in aven works and it was really easy. I really feel great about westif." Joe Casbarro Tucker, GA

"I can now warr the circles, I always winned me. I can't wait for assumer. I'm paing to ware a lobini for the first time in my life."

Susan K. Dothan, Al.

"I was amount as how the pounds just seemed to moit away after your aminor." I didn't coperiment the first subling of aminor either. With your help, I am now a health commious cater." Suman larencei. Atlanta, GA

"I wanted to quit, but I didn't think it would work for me. It did, and it was the best burgain in 1888." Ginny Nicholson Dublin, GA

Four of my fractrity broken attende with me — we all quit and we're even laing wight. Thanks for a great propress." Dick Middleton Thomasville, GA

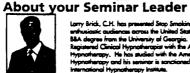
"You made me a real believer in your assistar. I recommend it to everyone who modes. It's amazing love I never even think of Cigarette."

Larry Barufoot: Saranota, P.

"It works. I have not model since the amount. I was no case." Robort J. Adicins Stockbridge, GA

Stockbridge, GA

"It's the dearment thing I've ever men! I
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program would work — but, number
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mader — 'vas of the five' who just had
no made in order to function. I wish I
and write more but I've just no
cention about my new life to six still."
Jam Jordan
Chattanooga, TN



Larry Brick, C.M. has presented Stop Smaking Servinors to enthusiastic audiences across the United States. He obtained his B&A degree from the University of Georgia. He is a Cartified and Registered Clinical Hypnotherapist with the American Board of Hypnotherapy. He has studied with the American Institute of Hypnotherapy and his seminer is sentioned by the International Hypnotherapy institute. Larry is President and ac-honder of I.H.I.Clinica, Inc., a Georgia Corporation, based in Adonty.

I H I Clinics, Inc. P.O. Box 314 Tucker, GA 30085-0314 1-404-934-4816

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#### **EXHIBIT B**



EXHIBIT B

Decision and Order

#### DECISION AND ORDER

The Federal Trade Commission having initiated an investigation of certain acts and practices of the respondents named in the caption hereof, and the respondents having been furnished thereafter with a copy of a draft of complaint which the Bureau of Consumer Protection proposed to present to the Commission for its consideration and which, if issued by the Commission, would charge respondents with violation of the Federal Trade Commission Act; and

The respondents and counsel for the Commission having thereafter executed an agreement containing a consent order, an admission by the respondents of all the jurisdictional facts set forth in the aforesaid draft of complaint, a statement that the signing of said agreement is for settlement purposes only and does not constitute an admission by respondents that the law has been violated as alleged in such complaint, or that the facts as alleged in such complaint, other than jurisdictional facts, are true, and waivers and other provisions as required by the Commission's Rules; and

The Commission having thereafter considered the matter and having determined that it had reason to believe that the respondents have violated the said Act, and that a complaint should issue stating its charges in that respect, and having thereupon accepted the executed consent agreement and placed such agreement on the public record for a period of sixty (60) days, and having duly considered the comments received, now in further conformity with the procedure prescribed in Section 2.34 of its Rules, the Commission hereby issues its complaint, makes the following jurisdictional findings and enters the following order:

- 1. Respondent IHIC is a Georgia corporation, with its principal office and place of business at 1962 Carthage Road, Tucker, Georgia.
- 2. Respondent Gordon Brick is the President and Chief Executive officer of said corporation. He formulates, directs and controls the acts and practices of said corporation. Respondent Larry Brick is the former President of said corporation. Together with Gordon Brick, he formulated, directed, and controlled the acts and practices of said corporation. Their address is the same as that of said corporation.
- 3. The Federal Trade Commission has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this proceeding and of the respondents, and the proceeding is in the public interest.

Decision and Order

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#### **ORDER**

#### DEFINITION

For the purposes of this order, "competent and reliable scientific evidence" shall mean those tests, analyses, research, studies, or other evidence based on the expertise of professionals in the relevant area, that has been conducted and evaluated in an objective manner by persons qualified to do so, using procedures generally accepted in the profession to yield accurate and reliable results. Survey evidence may be appropriate depending on the representation made.

I.

It is ordered, That respondents IHI Clinics, Inc., a corporation, its successors and assigns, and its officers, Gordon Brick, individually and as an officer of said corporation, and Larry Brick, individually and as a former officer of said corporation, and respondents' agents, representatives and employees, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, or other device, in connection with the advertising, promotion, offering for sale, or sale of any smoking cessation or weight loss program, including any such program that uses hypnosis in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in the Federal Trade Commission Act, do forthwith cease and desist from:

- A. Representing, directly or by implication, that ninety-five percent or more of the participants who attend respondents' smoking cessation seminars permanently abstain from smoking after attending those seminars, unless such is the case.
- B. Representing, directly or by implication, that the United States Government has rated the single-session, group hypnosis seminar used by respondents as the best way to stop smoking.
- C. Representing, directly or by implication, that participants who attend respondents' single-session group hypnosis seminar are cured of smoking addiction without experiencing craving, stress, weight gain, or other side effects, unless, at the time of making any such representation, respondents possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence substantiating the representation.

#### Decision and Order

- D. Making any representation, directly or by implication, about the relative or absolute performance or efficacy of any smoking cessation program or weight loss program, unless, at the time of making any such representation, respondents possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence substantiating the representation.
- E. Representing through any endorsement or testimonial that any participant(s) of respondents' smoking cessation program or weight loss program have achieved success in smoking abstinence or weight loss unless:
- (1) At the time of making such representation, the success claimed is representative of the typical or ordinary experience of all participants of such program, and respondents possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that substantiates such representation, or
- (2) Respondents disclose, clearly and prominently, and in close proximity to the endorsement or testimonial, either:
- (a) What the generally expected results would be for participants in such program, or
- (b) The limited applicability of the endorser's experience to what consumers may generally expect to achieve, that is, that consumers should not expect to experience similar results.
- F. Misrepresenting, directly or by implication, the existence, contents, validity, results, conclusions, or interpretations of any test, study, survey or report.
- G. Misrepresenting, directly or by implication, the performance or efficacy of any smoking cessation program or weight loss program.

II.

It is further ordered, That for three (3) years after the last date of dissemination of any representation covered by this order, respondents, or their successors and assigns, shall maintain and upon request make available to the Federal Trade Commission for inspection and copying:

A. All materials that were relied upon in disseminating such representation; and

B. All tests, reports, studies, surveys, demonstrations or other evidence in their possession or control that contradict, qualify, or call into question such representation, or the basis relied upon for such representation, including complaints from consumers.

#### III.

It is further ordered, That respondents shall notify the Commission at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of any proposed change in the corporate respondent such as dissolution, assignment, or sale resulting in the emergence of a successor corporation(s), the creation or dissolution of subsidiaries, or any other change in the corporation that may affect compliance obligations arising out of this order.

#### IV.

It is further ordered, That the individual respondents named herein shall promptly notify the Commission of the discontinuance of their present business or of their affiliation with the corporate respondent. In addition, for a period of three (3) years from the date of service of this order, each respondent shall promptly notify the Commission of each affiliation with a new business or employment that involves a smoking cessation program or a weight loss program. Each such notice shall include the respondent's new business address and a statement of the nature of the business or employment in which the respondent is newly engaged as well as a description of the respondent's duties and responsibilities in connection with the business or employment.

#### V.

It is further ordered, That respondents shall distribute a copy of this order to each of their officers, agents, representatives, independent contractors, and employees who are involved in the preparation and placement of advertisements or promotional materials; and, for a period of three (3) years from the date of entry

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Decision and Order

of this order, distribute same to all future such officers, agents, representatives, independent contractors, and employees.

# VI.

It is further ordered, That respondents shall, within sixty (60) days after the date of service of this order, file with the Commission a report, in writing, setting forth in detail the manner and form in which they have complied with this order.

120 F.T.C.

#### IN THE MATTER OF

#### ORIGINAL MARKETING, INC., ET AL.

CONSENT ORDER, ETC., IN REGARD TO ALLEGED VIOLATION OF SECS. 5 AND 12 OF THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION ACT

Docket C-3596. Complaint, Aug. 9, 1995--Decision, Aug. 9, 1995

This consent order prohibits, among other things, the Florida-based corporation, two of its officers and an affiliated advertising agency from making performance or benefit claims for any weight-loss or weight-control product or program or acupressure device unless the claims are true and substantiated by competent and reliable scientific evidence. Also, the consent order prohibits the respondents from misrepresenting any endorsement or testimonial for any weight-loss or weight-control product or program or any acupressure device as representing the typical or ordinary experience of users. In addition, the respondents are required to pay refunds to purchasers of Acu-Stop 2000 who have previously returned it, or who return it within 90 days after the order is final, and the individual respondents are required to post a \$300,000 performance bond, or to pay that amount into an escrow account, before marketing any weight-loss or weight-control product or program or any acupressure device.

#### **Appearances**

For the Commission: Richard L. Cleland and Brian A. Dahl. For the respondents: Sheldon Lustigman, Helfgott & Karas, New York, N.Y.

#### **COMPLAINT**

The Federal Trade Commission, having reason to believe that Original Marketing, Inc., d/b/a Acu-Stop 2000, and Franklin & Joseph, Inc., corporations; Barry A. Weiss, individually and as an officer and director of Original Marketing, Inc.; and Roger Franklin, individually and as an officer and director of Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc. ("respondents"), have violated the provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act, and it appearing to the Commission that a proceeding by it in respect thereof would be in the public interest, alleges:

PARAGRAPH 1. Respondent Original Marketing, Inc. ("OMI") is a Florida corporation doing business under the name Acu-Stop 2000. Its principal place of business is located at 11570 Wiles Road, Pompano Beach, Florida.

Respondent Franklin & Joseph, Inc. is a New York corporation with its principal place of business located at 237 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, New York.

Respondent Barry A. Weiss is or was at relevant times herein an officer and director of OMI. Individually or in concert with others, he formulated, directed, and controlled the acts and practices of OMI, including the acts and practices alleged in this complaint. He resides at 22471 Vista Wood Way, Boca Raton, Florida.

Respondent Roger Franklin is or was at relevant times herein an officer and director of OMI and Franklin & Joseph, Inc. Individually or in concert with others, he formulated, directed, and controlled the acts and practices of OMI and Franklin & Joseph, Inc., including the acts and practices alleged in this complaint. He resides at 33 Maplemoor Lane, White Plains, New York.

- PAR. 2. Respondents have advertised, offered for sale, sold, and distributed to the public, the Acu-Stop 2000, an acupressure weightloss device that nests inside the ear. The Acu-Stop 2000 is a device within the meaning of Sections 12 and 15 of the Federal Trade Commission Act.
- PAR. 3. The acts and practices of respondents alleged in this complaint have been in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in Section 4 of the Federal Trade Commission Act.
- PAR. 4. Respondents have disseminated or have caused to be disseminated advertisements and promotional materials for the Acu-Stop 2000, including but not necessarily limited to the attached Exhibits A-E. These advertisements contain the following statements:

#### A. YOU'LL PROVE TO YOURSELF:

YOU CAN LOSE 30 POUNDS IN 30 DAYS!

**ACU-STOP 2000 GUARANTEES:** 

This device is all you'll need, ever, to control your weight and get rid of flab. It will work for you or we'll refund every cent you paid for it. Every cent. 21st CENTURY METHOD MEANS:

- No Dieting No Pills
- No Nervousness
- No Frantic Exercising
- No Strange Formulas
- No Special Foods To Buy

120 F.T.C.

#### MORE THAN 200,000 SOLD! TESTIMONIALS ABOUND!

Ms. K.B. of California is typical of ACU-STOP 2000 users. She writes:

I've lost five pounds in eight days. My energy level is up. Those diet pills cost a ton of money and can't do this.

Ms. S.L.M. is an adult model who had all but given up on regaining her figure. She writes:

My waist had ballooned to 32 inches. Now it's back to 25 and I'm modeling again. I love you for making me beautiful again.

Mr. P.N. of Minnesota didn't think it would work but decided to give it a try: 30 pounds in 30 days? Right. Actually, I lost 33 pounds in 30 days. I still can't believe it.

NOT A 30-DAY OR 60-DAY SUPPLY. ONE ACU-STOP 2000 IS ALL YOU NEED . . . EVER!

ACU-STOP 2000 is a precision-engineered invention that fits snugly (and invisibly) in the right ear. It contacts and stimulates six precise pressure points, exactly like renowned acupressure. Using it just minutes a day eliminates your craving for food. You'll lose weight at the pace you think best. (If you lose too much weight, use your ACU-STOP 2000 less often.)

\* \* \* \*

Ask yourself: Would ACU-STOP 2000 make such an offer if thousands of users hadn't proved how effective it is? Nothing--no, nothing is as effective and as safe. (Exhibit A).

B. YOU TOO WILL BE ABLE TO SAY:

"I LOST 33 POUNDS IN 30 DAYS!"

WE PREDICT:

By the year 2001 this will be the standard. WHY? Because only Acu-Stop 2000 means

- No Strenuous Dieting
- No Pills No Nervousness
- No Frantic Exercising
- No Strange Formulas
- No Special Food To Buy

Please Read Every Word of This ACU-STOP 2000 GUARANTEE:

This device is all you'll need, ever, to control your weight and get rid of the flab. It will work for you or we'll refund every cent you paid for the product. Every cent. ASK THE MORE THAN 200,000 ACU-STOP BUYERS!

Ms. K.B. of Florida is an ACU-STOP user. She writes:

I've lost five pounds in eight days. My energy level is up. Those diet pills cost a ton of money and can't do this.

Ms. S.L.M. is an adult model who had all but given up on regaining her figure. She writes:

My waist had ballooned to 32 inches. Now it's back to 25 and I'm modeling again. I love you for making me beautiful again.

Ms. K.McF. of California didn't think it would work but decided to give it a try: 30 pounds in 30 days? Right. Actually, I lost 33 pounds in 30 days. I still can't believe it.

Results described in this ad may be atypical. [fine print]

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Complaint

YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO SPEND ANOTHER CENT. THIS IS NOT A 30-DAY OR 60-DAY SUPPLY. ONE ACU-STOP IS ALL YOU NEED . . . EVER! ACU-STOP 2000 is a precision-engineered invention that fits snugly (and invisibly) in the right ear. It contacts and stimulates six precise pressure points, exactly like renowned acupressure. All of "mainstream" science does not accept the discipline of acupressure. Most doctors do . . . and over 200,000 satisfied customers can't be wrong. Using it just minutes a day eliminates your craving for food. We can't tell you how much weight you will lose. Everyone is different. Results will vary depending on the individual.

\* \* \* \*

Ask yourself: Would ACU-STOP 2000 make such an offer if thousands of users hadn't proved how effective it is? Nothing--no, nothing--is as effective and as safe. (Exhibit B).

C. Introducing a real breakthrough in losing weight. So advanced, it won't let you fail! Pure Science or Pure Miracle? Maybe it's a little of both.

From now on, every other diet method is a thing of the past.

Think of it. No pills to pop. No favorite foods to give up. No tasteless, unsatisfying meal plans. No endless, wearying exercise. Just one incredible product that can enable you to lose weight fast and easily. Amazing? You bet. Here's why.

Based on a centuries-old understanding of how our bodies work.

The idea for ACU-STOP 2000 comes to us from across the seas in China. Their understanding of human physiology has long been acknowledged by medical experts to be extremely advanced. ACU-STOP 2000 is an acupressure-like device that stimulates those points in your body which regulate appetite . . . and suppresses their activity. It fits almost invisibly in your right ear. You don't have to wear it all day, just for a few minutes. But those few minutes a day can change the rest of your life--because that's all it takes to make those excess pounds and inches you hate disappear. What happens is, your hunger pangs and your craving for food just stop. They go away. Gone. With absolutely no unpleasant side effects, you eat less. And lose more. It's so effective, you'll see results immediately. Lose weight with none of the drawbacks other diet methods have.

We know how hard it is to lose weight. The emotional and physical toll on your mind and body can be devastating. But with ACU-STOP 2000 you will succeed. It just won't let you fail. And you won't have to worry about any of the negatives of other methods. You don't have to starve yourself, like a prisoner in your own home. You don't have to pop strange chemical pills with who-knowswhat side effects (pills that can make you so nervous and irritable, that even if they work friends and family may hate to be around you). And you don't have to undergo strenuous, exhausting exercise day after day. Forget all that. The acupressure method puts you in control without endless exercise and with minimal will power! All you do is stimulate the ear piece and your ravenous appetite goes . . . followed quickly by all those unwanted pounds and inches.

\* \* \*

Mrs. K.McE, Los Angeles, CA.

I have been overweight for 30 of my 38 years. On Oct. 1st, I weighed myself. I used the Acu-Stop following your instructions, and ate what I liked. On Nov. 1st

to my absolute and total amazement I had LOST, YES LOST!! 33 pounds and all of that in just 30 days.

Miss H.L., Huntington, NY: I tried your product and lost 20 pounds in the first three weeks. I can't believe how easy it was and I feel so much better about myself. Thank you so much.

Mrs. L.P., Kingwood, TX: I recently ordered one of your Acu-Stop 2000's. I followed the enclosed instructions and within the first month I lost 36 pounds. I'd like to take this opportunity to tell you how very pleased I am with your product. It worked for me better than any diet pill I've tried.

Ms. A.S., Massepequa, NY: I purchased your product several months ago. When I opened the package I didn't quite believe that this product would work. However, I was very surprised--IT WORKED!! I lost my target weight faster than any other product or diet I tried before. I can't thank you enough.

Mrs. K.B., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.: Using your product I lost seven pounds in the first seven days! I am continuing to use your product because I know that with its help I can continue to lose weight.

Results will vary and these losses are atypical. If you lose too much weight, discontinue use immediately. (Exhibit C).

- D. What Pleasure You'll Get From Reading About A Method That REALLY DOES Work . . .
- --Without Pills
- --Without Diets
- --Without Books
- --Without Will-Power

ACU-STOP 2000®

Once You Own It,

You'll NEVER Buy Another Pill . . .

You'll NEVER Go On Another Diet . . .

You'll NEVER Have To Plow Through Another Book . . .

You'll NEVER Again Depend On Will-Power!

ACU-STOP 2000 WORKS ON ITS OWN. NOTHING ELSE TO BUY, EVER. TESTED BY DOCTORS AND BACKED BY A ROCK-SOLID 100% GUARANTEE.

\* \* \* \*
ONCE YOU UNDERSTAND HOW IT WORKS, YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHY
IT WILL WORK FOR YOU!

Centuries ago, Chinese physicians perfected acupressure.

(Acupressure differs from its cousin, acupuncture, in its effectiveness without needles or discomfort.)

What these sages learned was that light stimulating pressure in the ear can control various cravings. Now, as we approach the 21st century, the scientists at Acu-Stop have refined this knowledge.

Acu-Stop 2000 is a thoroughly tested and proved device that fits invisibly in the right ear. It has no batteries nor moving parts. But activating it controls the appetite.

We Make You This Promise:

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Complaint

You've never experienced such an easy, effortless way to lose surplus pounds and inches. Never!

Are You Currently On Another Diet Plan?

ACU-STOP 2000® has been found to accelerate the results of diet pills and meal plans. This means you can reach your weight loss goals considerably faster. The same unconditional guarantee applies, of course. (Exhibit D).

- E. LOSE 30 POUND IN 30 DAYS
- --WITHOUT DIETING
- --WITHOUT EXERCISE

ACU-STOP 2000

THE WEIGHT LOSS METHOD OF THE FUTURE IS AVAILABLE TODAY-

#### LOSE 30 POUNDS IN 30 DAYS

Doctor patented Acu-Stop 2000 is so effective, a loss of 30 pounds in 30 days is not unusual. Our satisfied customers have told us their stories and they are fantastic! Miss H.L., Huntington, NY: I tried your product and lost 20 pounds in the first three weeks. I can't believe how easy it was and feel so much better about myself. Thank you so much.

Mrs. L.P., Kingwood, TX: I recently ordered one of your Acu-Stop 2000's. I followed the enclosed instructions and within the first month I lost 36 pounds. I'd like to take this opportunity to tell you how very pleased I am with your product. It worked for me better than any diet pill I've tried.

Ms. A.S., Massepequa, NY: I purchased your product several months ago. When I opened the package I didn't quite believe that this product would work. However, I was very surprised--IT WORKED!! It lost my target weight faster than any other product or diet I tried before. I can't thank you enough.

Mrs. K.B., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.: Using your product I lost seven pounds in the first seven days! I am continuing to use your product because I know that with its help I can continue to lose weight.

Mrs. B.K., Hartland, MI: Thank you for inventing this amazing product! This is the first diet that is really easy. Acu-Stop 2000 suppressed my appetite and I eat what I want while still losing weight.

Why Did The U.S. Government Officially Approve Acu-Stop 2000 For A Legal Patent?

From Mike Powers, President

Acu-Stop 2000

\* \* \* \*

The Official U.S. Government Document you see here hangs framed on my wall. I'm proud of it for it tells people who have a weight problem that Acu-Stop 2000 has been tested and patented by a Doctor.

Yes, you can finally have the beautiful, slim figure you're after . . . and lose up to 30 pounds in 30 days. No diets. No exercise. No pills. Why?

Because Acu-Stop 2000 will CONTROL your hunger in a remarkable new way. So amazing in fact, that the U.S. Government officially approved Acu-Stop 2000 with the Legal Patent you see above. One of the major problems in America is that people are too fat, and that's not just unsightly, it's unhealthy, too.

Acu-Stop 2000 has the POWER to end this problem. The Chinese invented it, and we perfected it! I can prove it really works. (Exhibit E).

- PAR. 5. Through the use of the statements contained in the advertisements and promotional materials referred to in paragraph four, including but not necessarily limited to the advertisements attached as Exhibits A-E, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that:
  - A. The Acu-Stop 2000 causes significant weight loss;
- B. The Acu-Stop 2000 causes significant weight loss without the need to diet or exercise;
- C. The Acu-Stop 2000 controls appetite or eliminates a person's craving for food; and
- D. The Acu-Stop 2000 is scientifically proven to cause significant weight loss and control appetite.

#### PAR. 6. In truth and in fact:

- A. The Acu-Stop 2000 does not cause significant weight loss;
- B. The Acu-Stop 2000 does not cause significant weight loss without the need to diet or exercise;
- C. The Acu-Stop 2000 does not control appetite or eliminate a person's craving for food; and
- D. The Acu-Stop 2000 is not scientifically proven to cause significant weight loss and control appetite.

Therefore, the representations set forth in paragraph five were, and are, false and misleading.

- PAR. 7. Through the use of statements contained in the advertisements referred to in paragraph four, including but not necessarily limited to the advertisements attached as Exhibits A-E, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that at the time they made the representations set forth in paragraph five (A) (C), they possessed and relied upon a reasonable basis that substantiated such representations.
- PAR. 8. In truth and in fact, at the time they made the representations set forth in paragraph five (A) (C), respondents did not possess and rely upon a reasonable basis that substantiated such

representations. Therefore, the representation set forth in paragraph seven was, and is, false and misleading.

- PAR. 9. Through the use of statements contained in the advertisements referred to in paragraph four, including but not necessarily limited to the advertisements attached as Exhibits A-C and E, respondents have represented, directly or by implication, that testimonials from consumers appearing in advertisements for the Acu-Stop 2000 reflect the typical or ordinary experience of members of the public who have used the product.
- PAR. 10. In truth and in fact, testimonials from consumers appearing in advertisements for the Acu-Stop 2000 do no reflect the typical or ordinary experience of members of the public who have used the product. Therefore, the representation set forth in paragraph nine was, and is, false and misleading.
- PAR. 11. The acts and practices of respondents as alleged in this complaint constitute unfair or deceptive acts or practices and the making of false advertisements in or affecting commerce in violation of Sections 5(a) and 12 of the Federal Trade Commission Act.

120 F.T.C.

#### **EXHIBIT A**



#### YOU'LL PROVE TO YOURSELF:

#### **ACU-STOP 2000 GUARANTEES:**

This device is all you'll need, ever. to control your weight and get rid of flab. It will work for you or we'll refund every cent you paid for it. Every cent.

#### 21st CENTURY **METHOD MEANS:**

- No Dieting No Pills
- No Nervousness
- No Frantic Exercising
- No Strange Formulas
- No Special Foods To Buy

#### **MORE THAN 200,000 SOLD! TESTIMONIALS** ABOUND!

Ms. K.B. of California is typical of ACU-STOP 2000 users. She writes:

I've lost five pounds

in eight days. My energy level is up. Those diet pills cost a ton of money and can't do this.

Ms. S.L.M. is an adult model who had but given up on regaining her figure

My waist had ballooned to 32 inche Now it's back to 25 and I'm modeling again. I love you for making me beautiful again.

Mr. P.N. of Minnesota didn't think it would work but decided to give it a try: 30 pounds in 30 days? Right Actually, I lost 33 pounds in 30 days. I still can't believe it

# ACU-STOP 2000 is a precision-engineered invention that fits snugly (and invisibly) in the right ear. It (and invisibly) in the right ear. It contacts and stimulates six precise pressure points, exactly like renowned acupressure. Using it just minutes a day eliminates your craving for food. You'll lose weight at the pace you think best. [If you lose too much weight, use your ACU-STOP 2000 less often.] NOW:

If you think it won't work for you. we challenge you: Try it. You can't lose, because if after using your ACU-STOP 2000 for one full month you don't agree it's the most effective way to get rid of fat and flab you've ever tried, just send it back for a 100% refund.

Ack you've live way to get you've live tried. Just send it back for a 100% refund.

Ask yourself: Would ACU-STOP 2000 make such an offer if thousands

NOT A 30-DAY OR 60-DAY SUPPLY.

ONE ACU-STOP 2000 IS

ALL YOU NEED...EVER!

of users hadn't proved how effective it is? Nothing – no. nothing is as effective and as safe.

only \$3999

VAIT 1 MORE DAY? OOK YOUR ABSOLUTE ? WHY WASTE MONEY N PILLS AND BOOKS?

> rs standing By 24 Hours A Day Il Free 1-800-228-3663 or mail coupon to ACU-STOP 2000 10343 Royal Palm Bivd. oral Springs, Florida 33065

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Γ	ACU-STOP 2000 · 10343 Royal Pale	m Blvd., Suite 339 • Coral Springs.	Florida 33065		
YES, rush my ACU-STOP 2000. I understand this is all I'll need, ever. I'll use it for one full month, if I'm not delighted with the results. I have the absolute right to send it			Phrase Print		
!	back for a 100% refund of every cent I've paid for t	Name			
ì	☐ 1 Acu-Stop 2000 @ 639.99. plus \$4.50	Please indicate payment method:  Discrete the control of the contr	Address		
i	Shipping and Handling Total = \$44.49 Florida residents add \$2.40 sales tax	Charge to: Visa MasterCard	City		
١	2 Acu-Stop 2000 @ \$29.99, plus \$4.50 Shipping and Handling – Total = \$64.48	No	State Zip		
į	(Save 620)	For fastest service call Toll-Free 1-800-228-3663			
	Florida residenta add 93.60 sales tax	Sidnature			

#### **EXHIBIT B**

### Take Your Own Word For It!

O1993 Acu-Stop 2000

#### YOU TOO WILL BE ABLE TO SAY:

#### WE PREDICT:

By the year 2001 this will be the standard. WITY? Because only Acu-Stop 2000 incans

- No Strenuous Dicting
- No Pills No Nervousness
- No Frantic Exercising
- No Strange Formulas ■ No Special Food To Buy

#### Please Read Every Word of This

ACU-STOP 2000 GUARANTEE: This device is all you'll need, ever, to control your weight and get rid of the flab. It will work for you or we'll refund every cent you paid for

the product. Every cent.

#### ASK THE MORE THAN 200,000 **ACU-STOP BUYERS!**

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YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO SPEND ANOTHER CENT. THIS IS NOT

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Results will vary depending on the individual.

#### NOW:

If you think it won't work for you, we challenge you: Try it. You can't lose, because if after using ACU-STO! 2000 for one full month you don't agree it's the most effective way to get rid of fat and flab you've ever tried, just send it hack for a 100% refund. Ask yourself: Would ACU-STOP 2000 make such an offer if thousands of users hadn't proved how effective it is? Nothing-no.nothing-is as effective and as safe

WHY WAIT EVEN ONE MORE DAY? WHY NOT LOOK TRIM IN A SWIMSUIT?

WHY WASTE MONEY ON PILLS AND BOOKS?

rrators Standing By 24 Hours A Day

Call Toll Free 1-800-395-7638 or mail coupon to ACU-STOP 2000. 11900 SW 66th Ave., Mianii, FL 33186

suits described in this ad may be atypical

ACU-STOP 2000 • 11900 SW 66th Ave., • Miami, Florida 33186

YES, rush my ACU STOP 2000. I understand this is all Fil need, ever. Fil use if lot one full month. If Fin not delighted with the results. I have the absolute right to send it back for a 100% refund of every cent five paid for this product.

J. 1 ACU-STOP 2000 & \$39.99, plus \$4.50 shipping and Handling Totale\$44.49 boths residents add \$2.40 sales tax

J. 2 ACU-STOP 2000 & \$29.99, plus \$4.50 Shopping and Handling Total=\$64.48 (Save \$20) Fierbla residents add \$1.70 \$48 (sax

Please indi	cate payn	nent method:
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Charge to	J Visa	→ MasterCard

Expires

Please Print	
Name	
Address	
City	
State	Zip
For faster servi	er rail Toll-Free 1-800-395-7638

120 F.T.C.

#### **EXHIBIT C**

lost 33 pounds in 30 days!" \*Mrs. K. McE., Los Angeles, CA.

Introducing a real breakthrough in losing weight.

So advanced, it won't let you fail!

Pure Science or Pure Miracle? Maybe it's a little of both.



#### **EXHIBIT C**

# We've changed so many live We can change yours.

From now on, every other diet method is a thing of the past.

Think of it. No pills to pop. No favorite foods to give up. No tasteless, unsatisfying meal plans. No endless, wearying exercise. Just one incredible product that can enable you to lose weight fast and easily. Amazing? You bet. Here's why.

Based on a centuries-old understanding of how our bodies work.

The idea for ACU-STOP 2000 comes to us from across the seas in China. Their understanding of human physiology has long been acknowledged by medical experts to be extremely advanced.

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Results will vary and these losses are a

120 F.T.C.

#### **EXHIBIT C**

#### Lose weight with none of the drawbacks other diet methods have.

We know how hard it is to lose weight. The emotional and physical toll on your mind and body can be devastating. But with ACU-STOP 2000 you will succeed. It just won't let you fail. And you won't have to worry about any of the negatives of other methods. You don't have to starve yourself, like a prisoner in your own home. You don't have to pop strange chemical pills with who-knows-what side effects (pills that can make you so nervous and irritable, that even if they work friends and family may hate to be around you). And you don't have to undergo strenuous, exhausting exercise day after day. Forget all that. The acupressure method puts you in control without endless exercise and with minimal will power! All you do is stimulate the ear piece and your ravenous appetite goes... followed quickly by all those unwanted pounds and inches.

#### Everything you need to know about our money-back guarantee.

It couldn't be simpler. We're so sure you'll be satisfied with ACU-STOP 2000, if you don't lose the weight, we'll refund your money. No questions asked.

#### Nothing to buy ever again - a small price to pay for looking great.

This may not be your first attempt at losing weight, but it will be your last. Because this method works. You'll never have to spend money on a diet pill. Plan, meal, book or exercise aid again. Order ACU-STOP 2000 once and that's it. This isn't a 30 or 60 day supply. This isn't step 1. This is it. Use it until you reach your goal weight, then put it away. If you have to use it again in the future for a minor weight gain, no problem. The stimulator lasts for years. But don't buy ACU-STOP just because of the money you'll save. Buy it because of all the weight you'll lose!

#### \*"I LOST 33 POUNDS IN 30 DAYS!"

d pills...

I LOST 33 POUNDS IN 30 DAYS!

Mrs. K.McE, Los Angeles, CA.

I have been overweight for 30 of my 38 years. On Oct.1st, 1 weighed myself. I used Acu-Stop following your instructions, and are what I liked. On Nov. 1st. to my absolute and total amazement I had LOST. YES LOST!! 33 pounds and all of that in just 30 days.

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Mrs. K.B., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.: Using your product I lost seven pounds in the first seven days! I am continuing to use your product because I know that with its help I can continue to lose weight.

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#### **EXHIBIT C**

# ORDER TODAY-ON'T WAIT

Even if you've given up all hope of losing weight, ACU-STOP 2000 is right for you. Don't give up. Don't give in. This is different from every other diet method. And it will work. For you. Guaranteed. Call now. Our operators are standing by, 24 hours a day. Now is the time to lose the weight you hate.

## CALL NOW-TOLL FREE 1-800-292-1971

#### MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

We guarantee ACU-STOP 2000 to be fast, safe and effective. If you are not completely satisfied, simply return it within 30 days for a full refund. No questions asked!



ONLY \$39.99 **SPECIAL** Buy 2 and pay only \$29.99 each. Save \$20.

> It controls your hunger, so you can control your weight.

000057

NOTE: If you lose too much weight, discontinue use immediately. Acu-Stop 2000, 10343 Royal Palm Blvd., Suite 339

Coral Springs, FL 33065-9896

120 F.T.C.

**EXHIBIT D** 

# YOU TAKE NO RISK!

# Take A Look At The ncu-stop2000 Unconditional Guarantee

Are You Currently
On Another
Diet Plan?

## **АС**U-STO**2**000

has been found to accelerate the results of diet pills and meal plans. This means you can reach your weight loss goals considerably faster. The same unconditional guarantee applies, of course.



TWO FREE GIFTS FROM ACU-STOP 2000

Phone or mail your order within the next 10 days and well include a brilliantly faceted one caract cubic zirconia, suitable for setting, and this handsome jewelry case from China. These gifts are yours to keep, our way of saying thanks for trying ACU-STOP 2000.

↑ 1991 Acu-Stop 2000

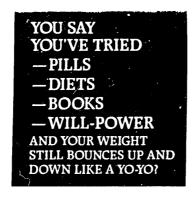
Available Only Grom

POUSTION:

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Complaint

#### **EXHIBIT D**



What Pleasure You'll Get From Reading About A Method
That REALLY DOES Work...

- Without Pills
- Without Diets
- Without Books
- Without Will-Power

# ACU-STOP000

Once You Own It,
You'll NEVER Buy Another Pill...
You'll NEVER Go On Another Diet...
You'll NEVER Have To Plow Through Another Book...
You'll NEVER Again Depend On Will-Power!

ACU-STOP 2000 WORKS ON ITS OWN. NOTHING ELSE TO BUY, EVER.







After

TESTED BY DOCTORS AND BACKED BY A ROCK-SOLID 100% GUARANTE

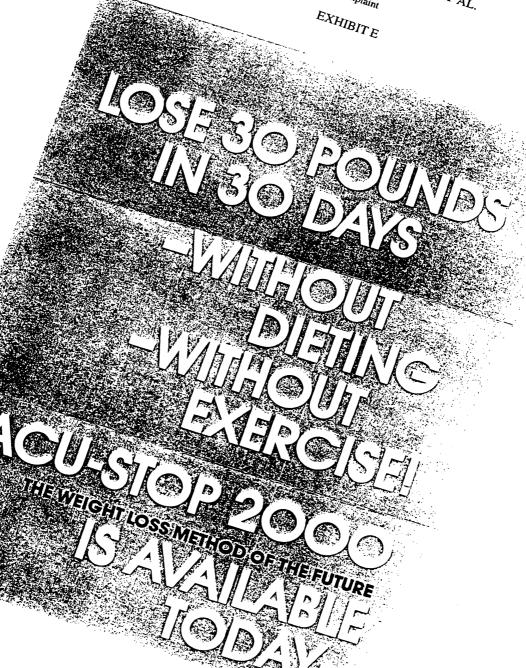
\$3999 Complete plus \$450 shipping handling

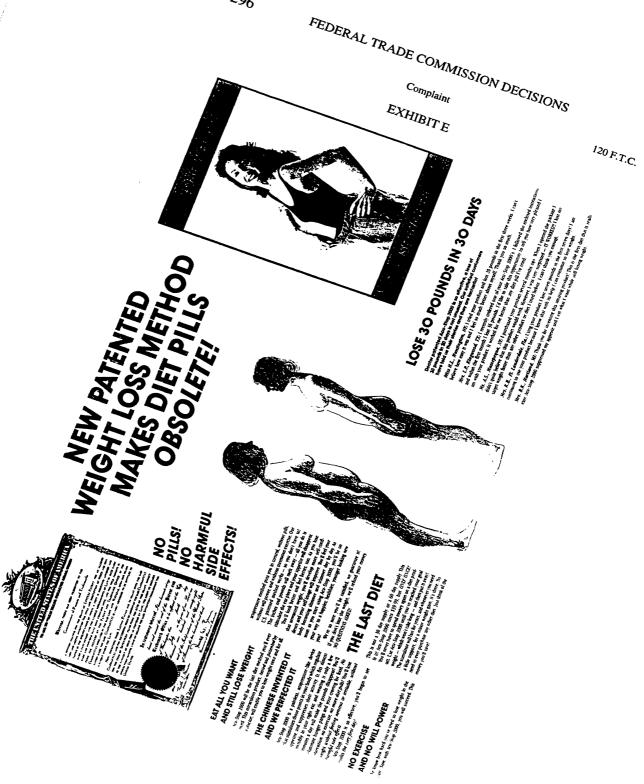
nothing else to buy ever!

120 F.T.C.

#### **EXHIBIT D**







#### **EXHIBIT E**

Why Did The U.S. Government Officially Approve Acu-Stop 2000 For A Legal Patent?



From Mike Powers, President Acu-Stop 2000

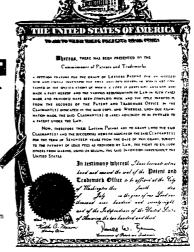
Coral Springs, Florida Thursday, 2:30 p.m.

SPECIAL REPORT

The Official U.S. Government Document you see here hangs framed on my wall. I'm broud of it for it tells people who have i weight problem that Acu-Stop 2000 has seen tested and patented by a Doctor.

I've also framed the letters I get rom Acu-Stop 2000 users. These letters and on my wall, too.

Let's make one thing perfectly clear right now. The Acu-Stop 2000 sure-fire way to CONTROL weight, permanently, does way with pills, diets, and exercise. I'r sure that's good news for you, because if ou're like most people who have a FAT rroblem, you most likely hate to give up he foods you love, deplore long hours of the foods you love, deplore long hours of trenuous exercise, and are suspicious of wallowing pills to lose weight.



#### U.S. Patent 4098277

The fact is, statistics clearly show us that pills, crash diets (which are angerous to health) and long hours of boring exercise rarely conquer fat on the long term. Most overweight women and men who try these methods know that hey may lose weight...then gain it back again.

Is this the case with you? Are you tired of being on a roller coaster, osing, gaining, losing, gaining...without permanent results? If so, you have y Written Guarantee that Acu-Stop 2000 will change all that.

Yes, you can finally have the beautiful, slim figure you're after...and ose up to 30 pounds in 30 days. No diets. No exercise. No pills. Why?

Because Acu-Stop 2000 will CONTROL your hunger in a remarkable new way. o amazing in fact, that the U.S. Government officially approved Acu-Stop 2000 ith the Legal Patent you see above. One of the major problems in America is hat people are too fat, and that's not just unsightly, it's unhealthy, too.

Acu-Stop 2000 has the POWER to end this problem. The Chinese invented it, nd we perfected it! I can prove it really works. Plane turn the none

120 F.T.C.

#### **EXHIBIT E**

# Why Did the U.S. Government Officially Approve Acu-Stop For A Legal Patent?

In America today, health care costs are enormous. One of the leading causes of poor health is heart disease. Being overweight can lead to heart disease...ask your Doctor.

And while you're at it, <u>please show him</u> this <u>letter</u>. I'm sure your Doctor wants to see you shed unwanted pounds fast and sensibly, and so do I. Acu-Stop 2000 makes it easy.

So forget past failures. All I ask is that you give this amazing NEW WEIGHT LOSS MIRACLE an honest try for just 30 days. All over America people are doing it. They have a lot to  $\underline{\text{smile}}$  about....











A woman from New York lost 20 pounds the first three weeks! In the first month, a lady from Texas said goodbye to 36 pounds of fat. An Acu-Stop 2000 user from Florida lost a pound a day! I have framed letters hanging on my wall to prove it.



# I'll Even Pay You Money To Help Me Prove That Acu-Stop 2000 Can Change Your Life!

Right now, our Company is planning a Nation Wide Advertising Campaign. Do be surprised to see Acu-Stop 2000 on television and major magazines and newspapers all across America. (Also don't be surprised to see this MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH in the field of Weight Control sold at a much higher price than on the ORDER FORM enclosed.)

Frankly, I'm after as many honest <u>Testimonials</u> as I can lay my hands on. The U.S. Government officially approved Acu-Stop 2000 for a Legal Patent (see other side) and I want to prove it really works.

Do this: Order this proven FAT-FIGHTER right now, by phone or mail.
Use it as directed and be thrilled with fast results! Send me a letter...
if I feel your letter is suitable for publication I'll send you \$100 right away. Your name will not be published unless I have your permission...but I will frame it and proudly hang it on my wall.



#### **EXHIBIT E**

## ORDER TODAY - DON'T WAIT

Acu-Stop 2000 is right for you. It's unlike any other diet method you've ever tried, and it works! Call now. Our operators are standing by, 24 hours a day.

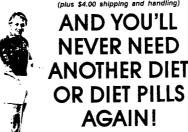
Try it for 30 days. You have nothing to lose but unwanted pounds and inches!

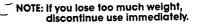






We guarantee Acu-Stop 2000 to be fast, safe, and effective. If you are not completely satisfied, simply return it within 30 days for a full refund. No questions asked.





#### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Federal Trade Commission having initiated an investigation of certain acts and practices of the respondents named in the caption hereof, and the respondents having been furnished thereafter with a copy of a draft of complaint which the Bureau of Consumer Protection proposed to present to the Commission for its consideration and which, if issued by the Commission, would charge respondents with violation of the Federal Trade Commission Act; and

The respondents, their attorney, and counsel for the Commission having thereafter executed an agreement containing a consent order, an admission by the respondents of all the jurisdictional facts set forth in the aforesaid draft of complaint, a statement that the signing of said agreement is for settlement purposes only and does not constitute an admission by respondents that the law has been violated as alleged in such complaint, or that the facts as alleged in such complaint, other than jurisdictional facts, are true and waivers and other provisions as required by the Commission's Rules; and

The Commission having thereafter considered the matter and having determined that it had reason to believe that the respondents have violated the said Act, and that a complaint should issue stating its charges in that respect, and having thereupon accepted the executed consent agreement and placed such agreement on the public record for a period of sixty (60) days, now in further conformity with the procedure prescribed in Section 2.34 of its Rules, the Commission hereby issues its complaint, makes the following jurisdictional findings and enters the following order:

1. Respondent Original Marketing, Inc. is a corporation organized, existing and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Florida, with its office and principal place of business located at 11570 Wiles Road, in the City of Pompano Beach, State of Florida.

Respondent Franklin & Joseph, Inc. is a corporation organized, existing and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York, with its office and principal place of business located at 237 Mamaroneck Avenue, in the City of White Plains, State of New York.

Respondent Barry A. Weiss is an officer and director of Original Marketing, Inc. He formulates, directs and controls the policies, acts

and practices of Original Marketing, Inc. He resides at 22471 Vista Wood Way, in the City of Boca Raton, State of Florida.

Respondent Roger Franklin is an officer and director of Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc. He formulates, directs and controls the acts and practices of said corporations. He resides at 33 Maplemoor Lane, in the City of White Plains, State of New York.

2. The Federal Trade Commission has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this proceeding and of the respondents, and the proceeding is in the public interest.

#### ORDER

For the purposes of this order:

- 1. "Competent and reliable scientific evidence" shall mean tests, analyses, research, studies, or other evidence based on the expertise of professionals in the relevant area, that has been conducted and evaluated in an objective manner by persons qualified to do so, using procedures generally accepted in the profession to yield accurate and reliable results.
- 2. "Acupressure device" shall mean any product, program, or service that is intended to function by means of the principles of acupressure.

I.

It is ordered, That respondents, Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc., corporations, their successors and assigns, and their officers; Barry A. Weiss, individually and as an officer and director of Original Marketing, Inc.; Roger Franklin, individually and as an officer and director of Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc.; and respondents' agents, representatives and employees, directly or through any partnership, corporation, subsidiary, division or other device, in connection with the advertising, packaging, labeling, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of the Acu-Stop 2000 or any other acupressure device in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in the Federal Trade Commission Act, do forthwith cease and desist from representing, in any manner, directly or by implication, that

- A. Such product causes significant weight loss;
- B. Such product causes significant weight loss without the need to diet or exercise;
- C. Such product controls appetite or eliminates a person's craving for food; or
- D. Such product is scientifically proven to cause significant weight loss or control appetite.

II.

It is further ordered, That respondents, Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc., corporations, their successors and assigns, and their officers; Barry A. Weiss, individually and as an officer and director of original Marketing, Inc.; Roger Franklin, individually and as an officer and director of Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc.; and respondents' agents, representatives and employees, directly or through any partnership, corporation, subsidiary, division or other device, in connection with the advertising, packaging, labeling, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any weight-loss or weight-control product or program or any acupressure device in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in the Federal Trade Commission Act, do forthwith cease and desist from making any representation, directly or by implication, regarding the performance, benefits, efficacy, or safety of such product, program, or device unless such representation is true and unless, at the time of making such representation, respondents possess and rely upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that substantiates the representation.

III.

It is further ordered, That respondents, Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc., corporations, their successors and assigns, and their officers; Barry A. Weiss, individually and as an officer and director of Original Marketing, Inc.; Roger Franklin, individually and as an officer and director of Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc.; and respondents' agents, representatives and employees, directly or through any partnership, corporation, subsidiary, division or other device, in connection with the advertising, packaging, labeling, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or

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Decision and Order

distribution of any weight-loss or weight-control product or program or any acupressure device in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in the Federal Trade Commission Act, do forthwith cease and desist from representing, directly or by implication, that any endorsement (as "endorsement" is defined in 16 CFR 255.0(b)) of the product, program, or device represents the typical or ordinary experience of members of the public who use the product, program, or device unless this is the case.

#### IV.

It is further ordered, That respondents, Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc., corporations, their successors and assigns, and their officers; Barry A. Weiss, individually and as an officer and director of Original Marketing, Inc.; Roger Franklin, individually and as an officer and director of Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc.; and respondents' agents, representatives and employees, directly or through any partnership, corporation, subsidiary, division or other device, in connection with the advertising, packaging, labeling, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any weight-loss or weight-control product or program or any acupressure device in or affecting commerce, as "commerce" is defined in the Federal Trade Commission Act, do forthwith cease and desist from misrepresenting, in any manner, directly or by implication, the contents, validity, results, conclusions, or interpretations of any test or study.

V.

It is further ordered, That respondents, and their successors and assigns, are jointly and severally liable for, and shall pay refunds to eligible consumers of Acu-Stop 2000 as provided herein. "Eligible consumer" shall mean any person who purchases, or has purchased, an Acu-Stop 2000 from respondents; who returns, or has returned, the device to respondents requesting a refund prior to ninety (90) days after the date this order becomes final; and who has not previously received a refund. "Eligible consumer" shall not include persons who request a credit from a credit card issuer and who do not otherwise request a credit or refund from respondents. Respondents shall

provide to the Commission all information necessary to identify eligible consumers and to verify their eligibility.

A. Not later than the date this order becomes final, respondents shall deposit into an escrow account, to be established by the Commission for the purpose of receiving payments due under the provisions of this order ("escrow account"), the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00). These funds, together with accrued interest, less any amount necessary to pay the costs of administering the escrow account and refund program provided herein, shall be used by the Commission or its representative to pay refunds to those eligible consumers who purchased an Acu-Stop 2000 from respondents prior to January 1, 1995. Any funds remaining in the escrow account after all refunds to consumers under this subparagraph have been paid shall be paid to the United States Treasury.

At any time after this order becomes final, the Commission may direct the escrow agent to transfer funds from the escrow account, including accrued interest, to the Commission to be distributed as herein provided. Respondents shall be notified as to how the funds are distributed, but shall have no right to contest the manner of distribution chosen by the Commission. The Commission, or its representative, shall, in its sole discretion, select the escrow agent. Costs associated with the administration of the escrow account and refund program provided herein, if any, shall be paid from funds in the escrow account.

Respondents relinquish all dominion, control and title to the funds paid into the escrow account, and all legal and equitable title to the funds shall vest in the Treasurer of the United States and in the designated consumers. Respondents shall make no claim to or demand for the return of the funds, directly or indirectly, through counsel or otherwise; and in the event of bankruptcy of respondents, respondents acknowledge that the funds are not part of the debtor's estate, nor does the estate have any claim or interest therein.

- B. Respondents shall pay from their own funds refunds to all eligible consumers who are not paid from the escrow account provided herein. This requirement shall include:
- 1) All refund requests from eligible consumers who purchased an Acu-Stop 2000 after January 1, 1995, and

2) All refund requests under subparagraph A that exceed the amount available in the escrow account.

All refunds required in subparagraph B.1 shall be paid within thirty (30) days after the receipt of the request, or within thirty (30) days after the date this order becomes final, whichever is later. All refunds required in subparagraph B.2 shall be paid within thirty (30) days after notification to respondents that the funds available in the escrow account to pay refunds have been depleted.

#### VI.

It is further ordered, That for three (3) years after this order becomes final, respondents, and their successors and assigns, shall maintain documents and records demonstrating the manner and form of respondents' compliance with Part V of this order, and upon request make available to the Commission, at a place it designates for inspection and copying, copies of:

- A. All documents and records evidencing the refunds respondents paid, or charge card credits issued, to eligible consumers, as that term is defined in Part V;
- B. A list containing the name, mailing address, and purchase price for each eligible consumer who requested a refund;
- C. The name and last known address of each consumer who requested a refund but was refused and the reason for each refusal to refund; and
- D. Copies of all correspondence and other communications to, or from, any consumers regarding a refund.

#### VII.

It is further ordered, That the respondents Barry A. Weiss, Roger Franklin, and their agents, representatives, and employees, directly or through any partnership, corporation, subsidiary, division, joint venture or other device, do forthwith cease and desist from advertising, promoting, offering for sale, selling, or distributing any weight-loss or weight-control product or program or any acupressure device to the general public, unless, prior to advertising, promoting, offering for sale, selling, or distributing to the general public any such product, respondents Weiss and Franklin first obtain a

performance bond in the principal sum of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000). Said bond shall be conditioned upon compliance by respondents Weiss and Franklin with the provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act, and with the provisions of this order. The bond shall be deemed continuous and remain in full force and effect as long as respondents Weiss and Franklin continue to advertise, promote, offer for sale, sell, or distribute any weight-loss or weightcontrol product or program or any acupressure device, directly or indirectly, to the general public, and for at least five (5) years after they have ceased any such activity. The bond shall cite this order as the subject matter of the bond and provide surety against respondents' failure to pay consumer redress or disgorgement as set forth herein. Such performance bond shall be an insurance agreement providing surety issued by a surety company that is admitted to do business in a state in which respondents Weiss and Franklin are doing business and that holds a Federal Certificate of Authority as Acceptable Surety on Federal Bonding and Reinsuring.

Respondents Weiss and Franklin shall provide a copy of such performance bond to the associate director of the Federal Trade Commission's Division of Enforcement, 6th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580, prior to the commencement of any business for which such bond is required.

Provided, however, in lieu of a performance bond, respondents Weiss and Franklin may establish and fund, pursuant to the terms set forth herein, an escrow account in the principal sum of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) in cash, or such other assets of equivalent value, which the Commission, or its representative, in its sole discretion may approve. Respondents Weiss and Franklin shall maintain such amount in that account for as long as they continue to advertise, promote, offer for sale, sell, or distribute any weight-loss or weight-control product or program or any acupressure device, directly or indirectly, to the general public, and for at least five (5) years after they have ceased any such activity. Respondents Weiss and Franklin shall pay all costs associated with the creation, funding, operation, and administration of the escrow account. Commission, or its representative, shall, in its sole discretion, select the escrow agent. The escrow agreement shall be in substantially the form attached to this order as Exhibit A.

The performance bond or escrow agreement shall provide that the surety company or escrow agent, within thirty (30) days following

receipt of notice that a final judgment or an order of the Commission against respondent Weiss and/or respondent Franklin for consumer redress or disgorgement in an action brought under the provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act has been entered, or, in the case of an order of the Commission, has become final, finding that Weiss and/or Franklin has violated the terms of this order or the Federal Trade Commission Act, and determining the amount of consumer redress or disgorgement to be paid, shall pay to the Commission so much of the performance bond or funds of the escrow account as does not exceed the amount of consumer redress or disgorgement ordered, and which remains unsatisfied at the time notice is provided to the surety company or escrow agent, provided that, if respondents have agreed to the entry of a court order of an order of the Commission, a specific finding that respondents violated the terms of this order or the provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act shall not be necessary. A copy of the notice provided for herein shall be mailed to respondent Weiss and/or respondent Franklin at their last known address.

Respondents Weiss and Franklin may not disclose the existence of the performance bond or escrow account to any consumer, or other purchaser or prospective purchaser, to whom a covered product, program, or device is advertised, promoted, offered for sale, sold, or distributed, without also disclosing at the same time and in a like manner that the performance bond or escrow account is required by order of the Federal Trade Commission in settlement of charges that respondents engaged in false and misleading representations.

#### VIII.

It is further ordered, That for five (5) years after the last date of dissemination of any representation covered by this order, respondents, or their successors and assigns, shall maintain and upon request make available to the Federal Trade Commission or its staff for inspection and copying:

- A. All materials that were relied upon in disseminating such representation; and
- B. All tests, reports, studies, surveys, demonstrations or other evidence in their possession or control that contradict, qualify, or call

into question such representation, or the basis relied upon for such representation, including complaints from consumers.

#### IX.

It is further ordered, That respondents, Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc., shall:

- A. Within thirty (30) days after service of this order, provide a copy of this order to each of respondents' current principals, officers, directors and managers, and to all personnel, agents, and representatives having sales, advertising, or policy responsibility with respect to the subject matter of this order; and
- B. For a period of five (5) years from the date of issuance of this order, provide a copy of this order to each of respondents' future principals, officers, directors, and managers, and to all personnel, agents, and representatives having sales, advertising, or policy responsibility with respect to the subject matter of this order who are associated with respondents or any subsidiary, successor, or assign, within three (3) days after the person assumes his or her position.

X.

It is further ordered, That respondents, Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc., shall notify the Federal Trade Commission at least thirty (30) days prior to any proposed change in their corporate structures, including but not limited to dissolution, assignment, or sale resulting in the emergence of a successor corporation, the creation or dissolution of subsidiaries or affiliates, the planned filing of a bankruptcy petition, or any other corporate change the may affect compliance obligations arising out of this order.

#### XI.

It is further ordered, That respondents, Barry A. Weiss and Roger Franklin, shall, for a period of five (5) years from the date of issuance of this order, notify the Commission within thirty (30) days of the discontinuance of his present business or employment and of his affiliation with any new business or employment. Each notice of

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Decision and Order

affiliation with any new business or employment shall include respondents' new business address and telephone number, current home address, and a statement describing the nature of the business or employment and his duties and responsibilities.

#### XII.

It is further ordered, That respondents, Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc., corporations, their successors and assigns, and their officers; Barry A. Weiss, individually and as an officer and director of Original Marketing, Inc., and Roger Franklin, individually and as an officer and director of Original Marketing, Inc. and Franklin & Joseph, Inc., shall, within sixty (60) days after service of this order, and at such other times as the Federal Trade Commission may require, file with the Commission a report, in writing, setting forth in detail the manner and form in which they have complied with this order.

#### **EXHIBIT A**

This escrow agreement, made and entered into this day or,, by and between (hereinafter "")
and the Federal Trade Commission, an agency of the Government of
the United States of America, by and through
(hereinafter "FTC"); and (hereinafter "Escrow Agent")
WITNESSETH:
Whereas, the FTC and have entered into an Agreement
Containing Consent Order to Cease and Desist (hereinafter "consent
order"), a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A; and
Whereas, the consent order requires that cease and desist
from advertising, promoting, offering for sale, selling, or distributing
any weight-loss or weight-control product or program or any
acupressure device to the general public unless first establishes
and maintains an escrow account, under the terms and conditions

Now, wherefore, in accordance with the terms of the consent order, which are incorporated herein by reference, the parties covenant and agree as follows:

specified in the consent order;

1		shall	establish	n an	Escrow	Account	at
	, to be	styled	E	Escrow	Account	,	,
Escrow Ag an initial	ent.		_ shall de	posit in	ito the Eso	crow Accor	unt
an initial	sum of	at lea	ast three	hund	red thou	sand doll	ars
(\$300,000.	00) in cash	n, or oth	er approv	ed asse	ets of equ	ivalent val	ue.
Thereafter,	,	sha	ll deposit	such a	dditional	amounts in	nto
the Escrow	Account a	as are n	ecessary t	o main	tain the to	otal amount	t ın
the Escrow	Account a	it three l	nundred th	ousano	d dollars (	\$300,000.0	10).
2. The	Escrow A	gent sh	all be the	sole si	gnatory c	n the Escr	ow
Account a	nd access t	to the fu	ınds held	in that	account s	hall be sol	ely
through th	e Escrow	Agent.	It is und	lerstoo	d by the p	parties to t	his
Escrow Ag	greement th	nat upor	n the signi	ng of t	his Agree	ment,	
relinquishe	es to the E	scrow A	Agent, all	legal ti	tle to the	escrow fun	ıds,
except as t	o such am	ounts ir	the Escr	ow Aco	count that	are in exc	ess
of three hu	indred tho	usand d	lollars (\$3	300,000	).00). Un	til and unl	ess
the Escrov	N Account	t is terr	ninated a	s provi	ided for l	nerein,	<u> </u>
agrees to n	nake no cla	im to o	r demand	for retu	irn of the f	funds, direc	tly
or indirect	tly, throug	sh coun	sel or oth	nerwise	e; and, in	the event	ot
bankruptc	y,	ackno	wledges	that th	e funds a	re not part	OI
's es	tate, nor do	oes the	estate hav	e any c	laim or in	terest there	en.
3. The	Escrow Ag	gent and	the parti	es here	to agree tl	nat the escr	ow
funds shall	be held or	nly in a	ccordance	with t	he terms	of the cons	ent
order and	the Escro	w Agre	ement		shall	pay all co	SIS
associated	with the c	reation	, funding,	operat	ion, and a	dministrat	10N
of the Escr	ow Accou	nt as the	ey become	due.	in the ever	nt that	11
fails to pa	y such cos	ts as the	ey becom	e due, i	the Escro	w Agent sl	nam
pay the co	sts from th	ie intere	est earned	on the	escrow I	unas.	
4. The	Escrow A	Agent,	within thi	rty day	ys follow	ing receipt	. OI
notice that	i a final ju	dgment	or an ord	ier of the	ne Comm	ission agai	mst
for	consumer	redres	s of disgo	orgeme	nt in an a	ction brou	gm
under the	provisions	of the I	ederal II	ade Co	mmissioi	Act has be	ma
entered, or	r, in the ca	ise of a	n order of	the Co	ommissioi	n, has beco	nnc r or
final, findi	ng that	nas v	/101ated in	e terms	Son missi	onsent orde	ond
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or disgorg	ement ord	the E	crow Acc	nt pro	vided tha	t, if	has
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DATE:

agreed to the entry of a court order or an order of the Commission, a specific finding that violated the terms of the consent order or the provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act shall not be necessary. The Escrow Agent shall have the power to convert to cash so much of the Escrow Account assets as are necessary to satisfy the obligations of the judgment or order.  5. The Escrow Account shall continue until at least five years after last advertises, promotes, offers for sale, sells, or distributes any product specified in the consent order, at which time, if there are no pending FTC investigations, legal or administrative actions by the FTC against, or unsatisfied obligations pursuant to a judgment or order described in paragraph 4 herein, for which a claim could be made against the escrow funds under the terms of the consent order, the FTC shall, upon 's request, instruct the Escrow Agent to terminate the Escrow Account and return the balance of the Escrow Account to At such time, the Escrow Agent shall be fully and completely released from its agency as herein described. The legal title to the escrow funds shall evest in at such time as the Escrow Agent, pursuant to instructions from the FTC, returns the funds to
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Witness the signatures of the parties, the day and year first above
written.
SIGNATURES