

JS-6

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 9 United States

10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
 11 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
 12 WESTERN DIVISION

13 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
 14 Plaintiff,  
 15 v.  
 16 NEPTUNE MANUFACTURING, INC.,  
 a corporation, and  
 17 ALEXANDER GOLDRING,  
 PETER OYREKH, and  
 18 SEMYON KRUTOVSKY, individuals,  
 19 Defendants.

No. 2:14-cv-09028-SJO-AS  
CONSENT DECREE OF PERMANENT  
 INJUNCTION

1 Plaintiff, the United States of America, by its undersigned  
2 attorneys, having filed a complaint for injunctive relief against  
3 Neptune Manufacturing, Inc., a California corporation, and  
4 individuals Alexander Goldring, Peter Oyrek, and Semyon Krutovsky  
5 (collectively, "Defendants"), and Defendants having appeared and  
6 having consented to entry of this Consent Decree of Permanent  
7 Injunction ("Decree") without contest and before any testimony has  
8 been taken, and the United States of America having consented to  
9 this Decree;  
10

11 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that:

12 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter and  
13 over all parties to this action.  
14

15 2. The complaint for injunction states a cause of action  
16 against Defendants under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act,  
17 21 U.S.C. § 301 et seq. (the "Act").

18 3. Defendants violate the Act, 21 U.S.C. § 331(a), by causing  
19 to be introduced or delivered for introduction into interstate  
20 commerce articles of food, within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 321(f),  
21 namely fish or fishery products, that are adulterated within the  
22 meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 342(a)(4), in that they have been prepared,  
23 packed, or held under insanitary conditions whereby they may have  
24 become contaminated with filth or may have been rendered injurious  
25 to health.  
26

27 4. Defendants violate the Act, 21 U.S.C. § 331(k), by causing  
28 articles of food within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 321(f), namely

1 fish or fishery products, to become adulterated within the meaning  
2 of 21 U.S.C. § 342(a)(4) while held for sale after shipment of one  
3 or more components in interstate commerce.

4         5. For the purposes of this Decree, the term "eviscerate"  
5 means to carefully and completely remove all internal organs,  
6 including gonads, in the body cavity of the fish, without puncturing  
7 or cutting them; "salt-cured" or "pickled" means preserved by any  
8 method using salt; "dried" means preserved by any method used to  
9 lower the amount of moisture in the fish; and "smoked" means  
10 preserved by treating the fish with salt, and subjecting it to the  
11 direct action of smoke from burning wood, sawdust, or similar  
12 material and/or imparting to it the flavor of smoke by a means such  
13 as immersing it in a solution of wood smoke.

14  
15  
16         6. Defendants and each and all of their officers, agents,  
17 employees, representatives, successors, assigns, attorneys, and any  
18 and all persons in active concert or participation with any of them  
19 (including individuals, directors, corporations, subsidiaries,  
20 affiliates, and partnerships) who have received actual notice of  
21 this Decree by personal service or otherwise are hereby permanently  
22 restrained and enjoined, under the provisions of 21 U.S.C. § 332(a)  
23 and the equitable authority of this Court, from directly or  
24 indirectly receiving, preparing, processing, packing, labeling,  
25 holding, and distributing articles of food, at or from their  
26 facility located at 5429 ½ W. Pico Boulevard, Los Angeles,  
27 California ("the facility"), and/or any other location(s) at or from  
28

1 which Defendants, now or in the future, receive, prepare, process,  
2 pack, label, hold, or distribute articles of food, unless and until:

3 (A) Defendants retain, at their expense, an independent  
4 laboratory (the "Laboratory") having no personal or financial ties  
5 (other than the retention agreement) to Defendants or their  
6 families, and that is qualified to analyze product and environmental  
7 samples collected at Defendants' facility for the presence of  
8 *Listeria monocytogenes* ("L. mono") and for water phase salt levels  
9 in fish and/or fishery products, in a manner that is acceptable to  
10 the United States Food and Drug Administration ("FDA"). Defendants  
11 shall notify FDA in writing immediately upon retaining such  
12 laboratory and shall provide FDA a copy of the service contract.  
13 Such service contract shall contain provisions, acceptable to FDA,  
14 for environmental and finished product sample analyses;  
15

16 (B) Defendants retain, at their expense, an independent  
17 expert or expert(s) (the "Expert(s)") having no personal or  
18 financial ties (other than the retention agreement) to Defendants or  
19 their families, and who, by reason of background, education,  
20 training, and experience, is qualified to:  
21

22 (1) Conduct hazard analyses to develop adequate  
23 HACCP plans for Defendants' fish or fishery products, as required by  
24 21 C.F.R. § 123.6(a)-(c);  
25

26 (2) Verify and ensure the adequacy of Defendants'  
27 HACCP plans, including but not limited to: (i) conducting  
28 scientific validation studies of the adequacy of the critical limits

1 listed in Defendants' HACCP plans for fish that are not eviscerated  
2 at the time of receipt, which include but are not limited to  
3 Defendants' cold-smoked herring, cold smoked mackerel, hot smoked  
4 mackerel, and pickled herring; and (ii) ensuring that large fish  
5 (i.e., those more than five (5) inches in length) used in the  
6 production of smoked, dried, or salt-cured (pickled) finished  
7 products are eviscerated before being salted or submerged in a salt  
8 solution;  
9

10 (3) Develop procedures for processing Defendants'  
11 fish or fishery products to achieve water phase salt levels that  
12 adequately control *Clostridium botulinum* ("C. bot") for all of  
13 Defendants' fish or fishery products;  
14

15 (4) Develop adequate written Sanitation Standard  
16 Operating Procedures ("SSOPs") in accordance with paragraph (C)(5)  
17 below;

18 (5) Develop a Listeria Monitoring Program in  
19 accordance with paragraph (C)(6) below;

20 (6) Collect product and environmental samples from  
21 within Defendants' facility for water phase salt level testing and  
22 for pathogen testing in accordance with paragraph (C) below;

23 (7) Evaluate Defendants' compliance with current  
24 good manufacturing practice ("cGMP") requirements for food, as  
25 required by 21 C.F.R. Part 110;

26 (8) Develop and conduct employee training programs  
27 (in English and any other language necessary to convey the substance  
28

1 of the training) on the SSOPs, seafood HACCP and cGMP requirements,  
2 and Listeria Monitoring Program; and

3 (9) Inspect Defendants' facility and determine  
4 whether the methods, facilities, and controls are operated and  
5 administered in conformity with the Act, its implementing  
6 regulations, and this Decree;  
7

8 Defendants shall notify FDA in writing of the name(s) and  
9 qualifications of the Expert(s) under paragraph (B) as soon as they  
10 retain such Expert(s).

11 (C) After review of all FDA inspectional observations of  
12 deficiencies from August 2006 to the present, and after consultation  
13 with the Laboratory, Defendants' Expert(s), in conjunction with  
14 Defendants:  
15

16 (1) Develops, to FDA's satisfaction, adequate  
17 written HACCP plan(s), as required by 21 C.F.R. Part 123, for each  
18 type of fish and/or fishery products received, prepared, processed,  
19 packed, labeled, held, and/or distributed by Defendants, that at a  
20 minimum:  
21

22 (a) ensures that large fish (more than five  
23 inches in length) used in Defendants' production of smoked, dried,  
24 or salt-cured (pickled) finished products are eviscerated before  
25 being salted or submerged in a salt solution (e.g., thawing);

26 (b) ensures that each brining tank of in-  
27 process fish or fishery products is prepared and monitored in such a  
28

1 manner that the fish contained therein have adequate, uniform, and  
2 consistent water phase salt levels at this processing step; and

3 (c) effectively controls food safety hazards,  
4 including but not limited to: (i) those associated with *C. bot*  
5 growth and toxin formation likely to occur in smoked, dried, or  
6 salt-cured (pickled) fish and fishery products under normal and  
7 moderate temperature abuse conditions; and (ii) those associated  
8 with histamine formation;  
9

10 (2) Develops and conducts, to FDA's satisfaction,  
11 scientific validation studies of the adequacy of the critical limits  
12 listed in Defendants' HACCP plans for fish that are not eviscerated  
13 prior to receipt by Defendants and, based on the results of such  
14 validation studies, revises the HACCP plans accordingly;  
15

16 (3) Develops, to FDA's satisfaction, written  
17 corrective action plans as part of Defendants' HACCP plans to be  
18 taken whenever there is a deviation from a critical limit, as  
19 described in 21 C.F.R. § 123.7(b);  
20

21 (4) Develops, to FDA's satisfaction, written  
22 verification procedures as part of Defendants' HACCP plans, as  
23 described in 21 C.F.R. § 123.8;  
24

25 (5) Develops, to FDA's satisfaction, written SSOPs  
26 specific to Defendants' facility and operations and that shall  
27 conform with the procedures set forth at 21 C.F.R. § 123.11(a)  
28 through (d), and shall ensure that Defendants' operations comply  
with the Act and 21 C.F.R. Part 110;

1 (6) Develops and implements, to FDA's satisfaction,  
2 a written Listeria Monitoring Program that shall include, at a  
3 minimum, the following:

4 (a) an effective written sanitation control  
5 program that establishes adequate methods, facilities, and controls  
6 for receiving, preparing, processing, packing, labeling, holding,  
7 and distributing articles of food to minimize the risk of  
8 introducing *L. mono*, other pathogenic organisms, and filth into  
9 Defendants' food, and to ensure that foods are not adulterated  
10 within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 342(a);

12 (b) an effective program for environmental  
13 monitoring and testing of Defendants' facility to ensure that such  
14 pathogenic organisms as *Listeria species* ("*L. spp.*") are  
15 systemically controlled and that *L. mono* does not occur in finished  
16 products. Sampling shall be conducted using specified frequencies  
17 and methods (e.g., including how, where, and when to sample; the  
18 number and frequency of samples to be collected; and the methods of  
19 analyses) that are acceptable to FDA. Defendants shall ensure that  
20 the results of all analyses conducted pursuant to paragraph  
21 (C)(6)(b) are sent to FDA within two (2) calendar days after receipt  
22 by Defendants; and

25 (c) an adequate written plan for remedial  
26 action that Defendants shall implement should *L. spp.*, *L. mono*, or  
27 any other pathogenic organism be detected. The remedial action plan  
28



1 shall include intensified sanitation and intensified sampling  
2 measures that are acceptable to FDA.

3 (7) Develops and conducts, to FDA's satisfaction,  
4 employee training programs (in English and any other language  
5 necessary to convey the substance of the training) on the seafood  
6 HACCP and cGMP regulations; HACCP plans; SSOPs; Listeria Monitoring  
7 Program; and any other control strategies specific to Defendants'  
8 fish and fishery products; and documents that Defendants and each of  
9 their officers, employees, and any other person(s) who performs  
10 duties at the facility for Defendants have received such training;  
11 and  
12

13 (8) Submits to FDA the written HACCP plans and all  
14 associated records (including monitoring records), validation  
15 studies, SSOPs, Listeria Monitoring Program, and training programs  
16 developed pursuant to paragraph (C)(1)-(7) above; and documentation  
17 demonstrating that the Expert(s) has trained Defendants and each of  
18 their officers, employees, and any other person(s) who performs  
19 duties at the facility for Defendants, as described in paragraph  
20 (C)(7) above;  
21

22 (D) Defendants assign continuing responsibility for the  
23 operation of the Listeria Monitoring Program discussed in paragraph  
24 (C)(6) above to a person (or persons), who, by reason of background,  
25 experience, or education, is qualified to maintain Defendants'  
26 facility in a sanitary condition, coordinate with the Laboratory,  
27  
28

1 and implement any necessary remedial action(s), and provide such  
2 person(s) with the authority to achieve the necessary corrections;

3 (E) Defendants make the Listeria Monitoring Program  
4 available and accessible to all their officers, employees, and any  
5 other person(s) who performs duties at the facility for Defendants  
6 in English and any other language necessary to convey the substance  
7 of such program;  
8

9 (F) FDA has approved, in writing, the seafood HACCP  
10 plan(s), validation studies, SSOPs, Listeria Monitoring Program, and  
11 training programs and documentation developed by the Expert(s), as  
12 specified in paragraphs (C)(1)-(7) above;

13 (G) Defendants successfully complete the training program  
14 approved by FDA pursuant to paragraph (F) above;

15 (H) Defendants, at their expense, clean and sanitize  
16 their facility and equipment therein and make improvements, thereby  
17 rendering the facility and equipment suitable for receiving,  
18 preparing, processing, packing, holding, labeling, and distributing  
19 articles of food in accordance with this Decree, the Act, and all  
20 applicable regulations, and Defendants ensure that the facility and  
21 equipment therein will be continuously maintained in a sanitary  
22 condition;  
23

24 (I) The Expert(s) conducts a comprehensive inspection of  
25 Defendants' facility and the methods and controls used to receive,  
26 prepare, process, pack, label, hold, and distribute foods to  
27 determine whether Defendants are operating in compliance with this  
28

1 Decree, the Act, and all applicable regulations. The Expert(s)  
2 shall verify, with supporting documentation, that: (i) Defendants  
3 have corrected all of the seafood HACCP and cGMP deficiencies  
4 observed by FDA since August 2006, specifying each FDA observation  
5 and Defendants' corrections thereof; (ii) the monitoring equipment  
6 used to implement Defendants' HACCP plans is suitable and performing  
7 adequately; and (iii) Defendants' facility and the methods and  
8 controls used to receive, prepare, process, pack, label, hold, and  
9 distribute foods are, in the Expert's opinion, in compliance with  
10 this Decree, the Act, and its implementing regulations. The  
11 Expert(s) shall submit, in writing, all findings and supporting  
12 documentation to Defendants and FDA concurrently, within fifteen  
13 (15) calendar days after completion of the inspection;  
14

15  
16 (J) Defendants destroy, under FDA's supervision, and  
17 according to a destruction plan submitted in writing by Defendants  
18 and approved in writing by FDA prior to implementation, all smoked,  
19 dried, and salt-cured (pickled) fish or fishery products in their  
20 custody, control, or possession at the time this Decree is signed by  
21 the parties;  
22

23 (K) FDA, as it deems necessary to evaluate Defendants'  
24 compliance with the terms of this Decree, the Act, and all  
25 applicable regulations, conducts inspections of Defendants'  
26 facility, including the buildings, sanitation-related systems,  
27 equipment, utensils, and all articles of food and relevant records  
28 contained therein;

1 (L) Defendants have paid all costs of inspection,  
2 analyses, review, investigations, examination, and supervision for  
3 FDA's oversight with respect to paragraphs (A) through (M), at the  
4 rates set forth in paragraph 14 below; and

5 (M) FDA has notified Defendants in writing that  
6 Defendants appear to be in compliance with the requirements set  
7 forth in paragraphs (A) through (L) of this Decree, the Act, and its  
8 implementing regulations.  
9

10 7. Defendants shall notify FDA in writing of their intent to  
11 process any smoked, dried, or pickled fish or fishery product(s) for  
12 which Defendants do not have a HACCP plan approved by FDA pursuant  
13 to paragraph 6(F) above. Defendants shall not receive, prepare,  
14 process, pack, hold, label, or distribute such product(s) until a  
15 written HACCP plan(s) for that product is submitted to and approved  
16 by FDA in writing.  
17

18 8. Immediately upon resuming operations after completing the  
19 requirements of paragraph 6, Defendants shall, in consultation with  
20 the Expert(s), continuously implement the written HACCP plans,  
21 SSOPs, and Listeria Monitoring Program approved by FDA pursuant to  
22 paragraph 6(F). Defendants further shall comply with the following  
23 requirements:  
24

25 (A) Defendants shall conduct finished product testing for  
26 water phase salt level in the following manner:

27 (1) Defendants shall have tested a randomly  
28 collected, representative sample from every lot of finished fish or

1 fishery products that they process for the first fifteen (15)  
2 consecutive production days, and all such samples shall have a water  
3 phase salt level that adheres to the critical limits set forth in  
4 the HACCP plans approved by FDA pursuant to paragraph 6(F);

5 (2) After satisfying the requirements of paragraph  
6 (A)(1), Defendants shall have tested a randomly collected,  
7 representative sample from one lot of each type of finished fish or  
8 fishery products that they process each week for the next three (3)  
9 months;

10 (3) After satisfying the requirements of paragraph  
11 (A)(2), Defendants shall have tested a randomly collected,  
12 representative sample from one lot of each type of finished fish or  
13 fishery products they process each month for the next twelve (12)  
14 months; and

15 (4) After satisfying the requirements of paragraph  
16 (A)(3), Defendants shall have tested a randomly collected,  
17 representative sample from one lot of each type of finished fish or  
18 fishery products they process every three (3) months thereafter.

19 Defendants shall send copies of the results of tests conducted  
20 pursuant to paragraph (A) to FDA within two (2) calendar days after  
21 receipt by Defendants. If any sample analysis conducted pursuant to  
22 paragraph (A) shows a water phase salt level that does not adhere to  
23 the critical limits set forth in the HACCP plans approved by FDA  
24 pursuant to paragraph 6(F), Defendants shall immediately destroy the  
25 affected lot(s) at Defendants' expense, under FDA's supervision, and  
26  
27  
28

1 pursuant to a destruction plan approved in writing by FDA.  
2 Defendants further shall reassess their processing operations to  
3 determine the cause of the deviation, correct the deviation, revise  
4 their HACCP plan(s) accordingly, and submit such revisions for FDA's  
5 written approval. After correcting the cause of the deviation,  
6 Defendants shall reinstate the complete sequence of testing under  
7 paragraph (A) anew; and  
8

9 (B) Defendants shall conduct finished product testing for  
10 *L. mono* in the following manner:

11 (1) Defendants shall have tested for *L. mono* in a  
12 randomly collected, representative sample from every lot of fish or  
13 fishery products that they process for the first fifteen (15)  
14 consecutive production days;  
15

16 (2) After the completion of testing under paragraph  
17 (B)(1), Defendants shall have tested a randomly collected,  
18 representative sample from one lot of each type of finished fish or  
19 fishery products that they process each week for the next three (3)  
20 months;  
21

22 (3) After the completion of testing under paragraph  
23 (B)(2), Defendants shall have tested a randomly collected,  
24 representative sample from at least one lot of each type of finished  
25 fish or fishery products that they process each month for the next  
26 twelve (12) months; and  
27

28 (4) After the completion of testing under paragraph  
(B)(3), Defendants shall have tested a randomly collected,

1 representative sample from at least one lot of each type of finished  
2 fish or fishery products that they process every three (3) months  
3 thereafter.

4 Defendants may use the same fish or fishery products that they  
5 sampled for water phase salt level testing in accordance with  
6 paragraph (A) for the purpose of *L. mono* testing pursuant to  
7 paragraph (B). Defendants shall send copies of the results of all  
8 testing conducted pursuant to paragraph (B) to FDA within two (2)  
9 calendar days after receipt by Defendants. If any laboratory test  
10 completed pursuant to paragraph (B) shows the presence of *L. mono* in  
11 any article of food, then Defendants must immediately cease  
12 production and notify FDA that production has ceased. Defendants  
13 shall also destroy, at Defendants' expense, under FDA's supervision,  
14 and according to a destruction plan submitted to and approved by FDA  
15 in writing prior to implementation, all food products manufactured  
16 from the time the laboratory sample(s) testing positive for *L. mono*  
17 were collected. Defendants may resume production only when they  
18 have determined and corrected the cause of the contamination and  
19 only after FDA notifies Defendants in writing that Defendants appear  
20 to be in compliance with the requirements of this Decree, the Act,  
21 and all applicable regulations. After correcting the cause of the  
22 contamination, Defendants shall reinstate the complete sequence of  
23 testing under paragraph (B) anew;

24  
25  
26  
27 (C) In the event that Defendants or their Expert(s)  
28 determine that the Listeria Monitoring Program that FDA approved

1 pursuant to paragraph 6(F) needs to be revised, Defendants shall  
2 provide proposed changes to FDA in writing at least twenty (20)  
3 calendar days prior to their implementation, and shall not implement  
4 their proposed changes until FDA approves those changes in writing.  
5 The alternative *L. mono* control program submitted to FDA shall  
6 consist of methods and controls that are shown to FDA's satisfaction  
7 to systemically control pathogenic organisms such as *Listeria*  
8 *species* ("*L. spp.*") and ensure that *L. mono* does not occur in  
9 finished products.  
10

11 9. If, after notifying FDA of the name of the laboratory  
12 retained to conduct sample collection and analyses pursuant to  
13 paragraph 6(A), Defendants terminate or in any way alter their  
14 service contract with the laboratory, Defendants shall notify FDA  
15 within seven (7) calendar days. If Defendants terminate their  
16 service contract, Defendants shall provide a copy of the service  
17 contract with the new laboratory to FDA within five (5) business  
18 days of execution.  
19

20 10. Within thirty (30) calendar days after Defendants resume  
21 their operations after completing the requirements of paragraph 6,  
22 the Expert(s) shall conduct a comprehensive inspection of the  
23 facility and the methods and controls used to receive, prepare,  
24 process, pack, label, hold, and distribute foods to determine  
25 whether Defendants are operating in compliance with this Decree, the  
26 Act, and all applicable regulations. The Expert(s) shall submit a  
27 report documenting all findings to Defendants and FDA concurrently,  
28



1 within ten (10) calendar days after completing the inspection.  
2 Thereafter, the Expert(s) shall conduct one inspection every three  
3 (3) months for one year, and then one inspection every six (6)  
4 months for the next two (2) years. Beginning in the fourth year  
5 after Defendants resume their operations after completing the  
6 requirements of paragraph 6, the Expert(s) shall conduct inspections  
7 annually unless FDA informs Defendants in writing that more frequent  
8 expert inspections and reporting are required. During each  
9 inspection conducted by the Expert(s), the Expert(s) shall verify  
10 that Defendants' facility and the methods and controls Defendants  
11 use to receive, prepare, process, pack, label, hold, and distribute  
12 articles of food are in compliance with the requirements of this  
13 Decree, the Act, and all applicable regulations, and shall certify  
14 compliance in the Expert's report.  
15  
16

17 11. Defendants and each and all of their officers, agents,  
18 employees, representatives, successors, assigns, attorneys, and any  
19 and all persons in active concert or participation with any of them  
20 (including individuals, directors, corporations, subsidiaries,  
21 affiliates, and partnerships) who receive actual notice of this  
22 Decree, are permanently restrained and enjoined under the provisions  
23 of 21 U.S.C. § 332(a) from directly or indirectly doing or causing  
24 any act that:  
25

26 (A) Violates the Act, 21 U.S.C. § 331(a), by introducing  
27 or delivering for introduction, or causing to be introduced or  
28 delivered for introduction, into interstate commerce, any article of

1 food within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 321(f) that is adulterated  
2 within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 342(a)(4);

3 (B) Violates the Act, 21 U.S.C. § 331(k), by causing any  
4 article of food within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 321(f) to become  
5 adulterated within the meaning of 21 U.S.C. § 342(a)(4) while such  
6 article is held for sale after shipment of one or more of their  
7 components in interstate commerce; and/or  
8

9 (C) Results in the failure to implement and continuously  
10 maintain the requirements of this Decree.

11 12. FDA shall be permitted, without prior notice and as and  
12 when FDA deems necessary, to make inspections of Defendants'  
13 facility, and any other locations at which Defendants receive,  
14 prepare, process, pack, label, hold, or distribute articles of food  
15 and, without prior notice, to take any other measures necessary to  
16 monitor and ensure continuing compliance with the terms of this  
17 Decree, the Act, and its implementing regulations. During the  
18 inspections, FDA shall be permitted to have immediate access to  
19 buildings, equipment, raw ingredients, in-process and finished  
20 articles of food, containers, and packaging material therein; to  
21 take photographs and make video recordings; to take samples of  
22 Defendants' raw ingredients, in-process, and finished articles of  
23 food, containers, and packaging material; and to examine and copy  
24 all records related to receiving, preparing, processing, packing,  
25 holding, labeling, and distributing any and all articles of food.  
26 The inspections shall be permitted upon presentation of a copy of  
27  
28

1 this Decree and appropriate credentials. The inspection authority  
2 granted by this Decree is apart from, and in addition to, the  
3 authority to make inspections under the Act, 21 U.S.C. § 374.

4 13. Defendants shall notify FDA in writing at least fifteen  
5 (15) calendar days before any change in ownership, name or character  
6 of their business, including reorganization, relocation,  
7 dissolution, assignment, or lease or sale of the business or any  
8 assets of the business, such as buildings, equipment, or inventory,  
9 that may affect compliance with the obligations arising from this  
10 Decree. Defendants shall provide any prospective successor or  
11 assign with a copy of this Decree at least ten (10) calendar days  
12 before the assignment or change in business, and shall provide FDA  
13 with an affidavit of compliance with this paragraph within ten (10)  
14 calendar days of providing a copy of this Decree to a prospective  
15 successor or assign.  
16  
17

18 14. Defendants shall pay all costs of FDA's supervision,  
19 inspections, investigations, analyses, examinations, and reviews  
20 that FDA deems necessary to evaluate Defendants' compliance with  
21 this Decree, at the standard rates prevailing at the time costs are  
22 incurred, and Defendants shall make payment in full to FDA within  
23 (30) calendar days of receiving written notification from FDA of the  
24 costs. As of the date that this Decree is signed by the parties,  
25 these rates are: \$88.45 per hour and fraction thereof per  
26 representative inspection work; \$106.03 per hour or fraction thereof  
27 per representative analytical or review work; \$0.56 per mile for  
28

1 travel by automobile; government rate or the equivalent for travel  
2 by air or other means; and the published government per diem rate or  
3 the equivalent for the areas in which the inspections are performed  
4 per representative and per day for subsistence expenses, where  
5 necessary. In the event that the standard rates applicable to FDA  
6 supervision of court-ordered compliance are modified, these rates  
7 shall be increased or decreased without further order of the Court.  
8

9 15. If, at any time after entry of this Decree, FDA  
10 determines, based on the results of an inspection, analysis of a  
11 sample, report submitted by the Expert(s), or other information,  
12 that Defendants have failed to comply with any provision of this  
13 Decree, have violated the Act or its implementing regulations, or  
14 that additional corrective actions are necessary to achieve  
15 compliance with this Decree, the Act or its implementing  
16 regulations, FDA may, as and when it deems necessary, notify  
17 Defendants in writing and order Defendants to take appropriate  
18 action, including, but not limited to, ordering Defendants to  
19 immediately take one or more of the following actions:  
20

21 (A) Cease receiving, preparing, processing, packing,  
22 labeling, holding, and distributing any articles of food;  
23

24 (B) Recall all articles of food that have been  
25 distributed and/or are under the custody and control of Defendants'  
26 agents, distributors, customers, or consumers;

27 (C) Submit additional samples to a qualified laboratory  
28 for analysis;

1 (D) Assess liquidated damages, as provided by paragraph  
2 18 of this Decree;

3 (E) Institute or re-implement any of the requirements set  
4 forth in this Decree; and

5 (F) Take any other corrective actions as FDA deems  
6 necessary to protect the public health or bring Defendants into  
7 compliance with this Decree, the Act, and its implementing  
8 regulations.  
9

10 The provisions of this paragraph shall be separate and apart  
11 from, and in addition to, all other remedies available to FDA.  
12 Defendants shall pay all costs of recalls and other corrective  
13 actions, including the costs of FDA's supervision, inspections,  
14 investigations, analyses, examinations, review, travel, and  
15 subsistence expenses to implement and monitor recalls and other  
16 actions, at the rates specified in paragraph 14 of this Decree.  
17

18 16. Upon receipt of any order issued by FDA pursuant to  
19 paragraph 15, Defendants shall immediately and fully comply with the  
20 terms of the order. Any cessation of operations or other action as  
21 described in paragraph 15 shall be implemented immediately upon  
22 notice from FDA and shall continue until Defendants receive written  
23 notification from FDA that Defendants appear to be in compliance  
24 with the Decree, the Act, and its implementing regulations, and that  
25 Defendants may resume operations. After a cessation of operations,  
26 and while determining whether Defendants are in compliance with this  
27 Decree, the Act, and its implementing regulations, FDA may require  
28

1 Defendants to re-institute or re-implement any of the requirements  
2 of this Decree.

3 17. Defendants shall maintain copies of their HACCP plans,  
4 along with copies of all records required by such plans, 21 C.F.R.  
5 Part 123, or this Decree, at their facility in a location where they  
6 are readily available for reference and inspection by FDA. All  
7 records required to be kept by Defendants' HACCP plans, FDA  
8 regulations, and this Decree shall be retained for at least three  
9 (3) years after the date the records are prepared and shall be  
10 presented immediately to FDA investigators upon request.  
11

12 18. If any Defendant fails to comply with the provisions of  
13 the Act, its implementing regulations, and/or this Decree, then  
14 Defendants shall pay to the United States of America liquidated  
15 damages in the sum of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) for  
16 each day that such violation continues; an additional sum of one  
17 thousand dollars (\$1,000) in liquidated damages per day for each  
18 violation of the Act, its implementing regulations, and/or this  
19 Decree (e.g., if two violations occur for two days, the liquidated  
20 damages shall be \$7,000); and an additional sum equal to twice the  
21 retail value of each shipment of food that is adulterated or  
22 otherwise in violation of the Act, its implementing regulations, or  
23 this Decree. Defendants understand and agree that the liquidated  
24 damages specified in this paragraph are not punitive in nature and  
25 their imposition does not in any way limit the ability of the United  
26 States to seek, and the Court to impose, additional civil or  
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28

1 criminal penalties based on the conduct that may also be the basis  
2 for payment of liquidated damages pursuant to this paragraph.

3 19. Should the United States bring and prevail in a contempt  
4 action to enforce the terms of this Decree, then Defendants shall,  
5 in addition to other remedies, reimburse the United States for its  
6 attorneys' fees, travel expenses incurred by attorneys and  
7 witnesses, expert witness fees, administrative and court costs,  
8 investigation and analytical expenses incurred in bringing the  
9 contempt action, and any other costs or fees related to the contempt  
10 proceedings.  
11

12 20. All decisions specified in this Decree shall be vested in  
13 the discretion of FDA and shall be final. If contested by  
14 Defendants, FDA's decisions under this Decree shall be reviewed by  
15 the Court under the arbitrary and capricious standard set forth in 5  
16 U.S.C. § 706(2)(A). Review shall be based exclusively on the  
17 written record before the FDA at the time the decision was made. No  
18 discovery shall be taken by either party.  
19

20 21. Within ten (10) calendar days after entry of this Decree,  
21 Defendants shall provide a copy of this Decree by personal service  
22 or certified mail (return receipt requested) to each and all of  
23 their officers, agents, employees, representatives, successors,  
24 assigns, attorneys, and any and all persons in active concert or  
25 participation with any of them (including individuals, directors,  
26 corporations, subsidiaries, affiliates, and partnerships).  
27  
28 Defendants shall provide to FDA within thirty (30) calendar days of

1 the date of the entry of this Decree, an affidavit of compliance  
2 with this paragraph stating the fact and manner of compliance and  
3 identifying the names and positions of all persons so notified and  
4 attaching copies of the executed certified mail return receipts or  
5 other proof of service if the Decree was delivered by personal  
6 service.  
7

8 22. Defendants shall prominently post a copy of this Decree  
9 (in English and any other language necessary to convey the substance  
10 of the Decree) in an employee common area at Defendants' facility  
11 within ten (10) calendar days of the entry of this Decree and shall  
12 ensure that the Decree remains posted for as long as the Decree  
13 remains in effect.  
14

15 23. Defendants shall, within ten (10) calendar days of the  
16 entry of this Decree, hold a general meeting or a series of smaller  
17 meetings for employees of the facility, at which they shall describe  
18 the terms and obligations of this Decree (in English and any other  
19 language necessary to convey the substance of the Decree).  
20

21 Defendants shall provide to FDA within thirty (30) calendar days of  
22 the entry of this Decree, an affidavit of compliance with this  
23 paragraph stating the fact and manner of compliance and identifying  
24 the names and positions of all meeting attendees and attaching a  
25 copy of the meeting sign-in sheet(s).  
26

27 24. In the event that any Defendant becomes associated with  
28 any additional officers, agents, employees, representatives,  
successors, assigns, attorneys, or any additional persons in active



1 concert or participation with any of them (including individuals,  
2 directors, corporations, subsidiaries, affiliates, and partnerships)  
3 at any time after entry of this Decree, Defendants shall immediately  
4 provide a copy of this Decree, by personal service or certified mail  
5 (return receipt requested), to such persons. Within ten (10)  
6 calendar days of each instance that any Defendant becomes associated  
7 with any such person, Defendants shall provide to FDA an affidavit  
8 stating the fact and manner of Defendants' compliance with this  
9 paragraph, identifying the names, addresses, and positions of all  
10 persons who received a copy of this Decree pursuant to this  
11 paragraph, and attaching a copy of the executed certified mail  
12 return receipts.  
13

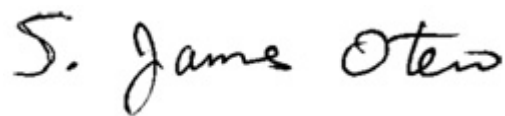
14           25. Defendants shall address all communications required under  
15 this Decree to the Director, Los Angeles District Office, Food and  
16 Drug Administration, 19701 Fairchild, Irvine, CA 92612 and shall  
17 reference this civil action by case name and civil action number and  
18 shall prominently mark "Decree Correspondence" in such  
19 communication.  
20

21           26. This Court retains jurisdiction of this action and the  
22 parties hereto for the purpose of enforcing and modifying this  
23 Decree and for the purpose of granting such additional relief as may  
24 be necessary or appropriate.  
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1 SO ORDERED:

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Dated this 1st day of December, 2014.



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UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

1 FOR PLAINTIFF:

2 JOYCE R. BRANDA  
3 Acting Assistant Attorney  
4 General  
5 U.S. Department of Justice  
6 Civil Division

7 JONATHAN F. OLIN  
8 Deputy Assistant Attorney  
9 General  
10 U.S. Department of Justice  
11 Civil Division

12 MICHAEL S. BLUME  
13 Director  
14 U.S. Department of Justice  
15 Consumer Protection Branch

16 /s/ Daniel M. Baeza  
17 DANIEL M. BAEZA  
18 Trial Attorney  
19 U.S. Department of Justice  
20 Consumer Protection Branch  
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1 For Defendants:

2

3

4 /s/ Alexander Goldring

ALEXANDER GOLDRING

5 Individually and on behalf of  
6 Neptune Manufacturing, Inc.

7

8 /s/ Peter Oyrek

PETER OYREKH

9 Individually and on behalf of  
10 Neptune Manufacturing, Inc.

11

12

13 /s/ Semyon Krutovsky

SEMYON KRUTOVSKY

14 Individually and on behalf of  
15 Neptune Manufacturing, Inc.

16

17

18 /s/ Yuri Voronin

YURI VORONIN

19 Attorney for  
20 Neptune Manufacturing, Inc.

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