

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION**

**COMMISSIONERS: Maureen K. Ohlhausen, Acting Chairman
 Terrell McSweeney**

<p>In the Matter of</p> <p>BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY, a corporation;</p> <p>and</p> <p>C. R. BARD, INC., a corporation.</p>	<p>)</p>	<p>Docket No. C-4637</p>
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ORDER TO MAINTAIN ASSETS

The Federal Trade Commission (“Commission”), having initiated an investigation of the proposed acquisition by Respondent Becton, Dickinson and Company (“BD”) of Respondent C. R. Bard, Inc. (“Bard”), collectively (“Respondents”), and Respondents having been furnished thereafter with a copy of a draft of the Complaint (“Complaint”) that the Bureau of Competition proposed to present to the Commission for its consideration and which, if issued by the Commission, would charge Respondents with violations 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; and

Respondents, their attorneys, and counsel for the Commission having thereafter executed an Agreement Containing Consent Orders (“Consent Agreement”), containing an admission by Respondents of all the jurisdictional facts set forth in the aforesaid Complaint, a statement that the signing of said Consent 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 to accept the executed Consent Agreement and to place such Consent Agreement on the public record for a period of thirty (30) days for the receipt and consideration of public comments, now in further conformity with the procedure described in Commission Rule 2.34, 16 C.F.R. § 2.34,

the Commission hereby issues its Complaint, makes the following jurisdictional findings, and issues this Order to Maintain Assets:

1. Respondent BD is a corporation organized, existing, and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New Jersey, with its offices and principal place of business located at 1 Becton Drive, Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417.
2. Respondent Bard is a corporation organized, existing, and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New Jersey, with its offices and principal place of business located at 730 Central Avenue, Murray Hill, NJ 07974.
3. The Commission has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this proceeding and over the Respondents, and the proceeding is in the public interest.

ORDER

I.

IT IS ORDERED that, as used in this Order to Maintain Assets, the following definitions and the definitions used in the Consent Agreement and the proposed Decision and Order (and when made final and effective, the Decision and Order), which are incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof, shall apply:

- A. “BD” means Becton, Dickinson and Company; its directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, successors, and assigns; and its joint ventures, subsidiaries, divisions, groups, and affiliates, in each case controlled by Becton, Dickinson and Company , and the respective directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, successors, and assigns of each. After the Acquisition, BD shall include Bard.
- B. “Bard” means C. R. Bard, Inc.; its directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, successors, and assigns; and its joint ventures, subsidiaries, divisions, groups, and affiliates, in each case controlled by Bard, and the respective directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, successors, and assigns of each.
- C. “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.
- D. “Respondent(s)” means BD and Bard, individually and collectively.
- E. “Decision and Order” means the:
 1. Proposed Decision and Order contained in the Consent Agreement in this matter until the issuance of a final and effective Decision and Order by the Commission; and
 2. Final Decision and Order following its issuance and service by the Commission in this matter.
- F. “Divestiture Product(s)” means the following, individually and collectively:

1. the Tunneled Home Drainage Catheter System Products; and
 2. the Soft Tissue Core Needle Biopsy Products.
- G. “Divestiture Product Assets” means the following, individually and collectively:
1. the Tunneled Home Drainage Catheter System Assets To Be Divested; and
 2. the Soft Tissue Core Needle Biopsy Assets To Be Divested.
- H. “Divestiture Product Business(es)” means the Business of a Respondent (as that Respondent is specified in the definition of each Divestiture Product) related to each of the Divestiture Products to the extent that such Business is owned, controlled, or managed by the Respondent and the assets related to such Business to the extent such assets are owned by, controlled by, managed by, or licensed to the Respondent.
- I. “Manufacturing Technology” means the following, individually and collectively:
1. the Tunneled Home Drainage Catheter System Manufacturing Technology; and
 2. the Soft Tissue Core Needle Biopsy Manufacturing Technology.
- J. “Monitor” means any monitor appointed pursuant to Paragraph III of this Order to Maintain Assets or Paragraph III of the Decision and Order.
- K. “Transition Period” means, for each Divestiture Product, the period beginning on the date this Order to Maintain Assets is issued and ending on the earlier of the following dates: (i) the date on which the relevant Acquirer directs the Respondent(s) to cease the marketing, distribution, and sale of such Divestiture Product(s); (ii) the date on which the relevant Acquirer commences the marketing, distribution, and sale of such Divestiture Product(s); or (iii) the date four (4) months after the Closing Date for such Divestiture Product(s).
- L. “Orders” means the Decision and Order and this Order to Maintain Assets.

II.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that from the date this Order to Maintain Assets becomes final and effective:

- A. Until Respondents fully transfer and deliver each of the respective Divestiture Product Assets to an Acquirer, Respondents shall take such actions as are necessary to maintain the full economic viability, marketability, and competitiveness of each of the related Divestiture Product Businesses, to minimize any risk of loss of competitive potential for such Divestiture Product Businesses, and to prevent the destruction, removal, wasting, deterioration, or impairment of such Divestiture Product Assets except for ordinary wear and tear. Respondents shall not sell, transfer, encumber, or otherwise impair the Divestiture Product Assets (other than in the manner prescribed in the Decision and

Order), nor take any action that lessens the full economic viability, marketability, or competitiveness of the related Divestiture Product Businesses.

- B. Until Respondents fully transfer and deliver each of the respective Divestiture Product Assets to an Acquirer, Respondents shall maintain the operations of the related Divestiture Product Businesses in the regular and ordinary course of business and in accordance with past practice (including regular repair and maintenance of the assets of such business) and/or as may be necessary to preserve the full economic viability, marketability, and competitiveness of such Divestiture Product Businesses and shall use their best efforts to preserve the existing relationships with the following: suppliers; vendors and distributors; end-use customers; Agencies; employees; and others having business relations with each of the respective Divestiture Product Businesses. Respondents' responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
1. providing each of the respective Divestiture Product Businesses with sufficient working capital to operate at least at current rates of operation, to meet all capital calls with respect to such business and to carry on, at least at their scheduled pace, all capital projects, business plans, and promotional activities for such Divestiture Product Business;
 2. continuing, at least at their scheduled pace, any additional expenditures for each of the respective Divestiture Product Businesses authorized prior to the date the Consent Agreement was signed by the Respondents, including, but not limited to, all research, Development, manufacturing, distribution, marketing, and sales expenditures;
 3. providing such resources as may be necessary to respond to competition against each of the Divestiture Products and/or to prevent any diminution in sales of each of the Divestiture Products during and after the Acquisition process and prior to the complete transfer and delivery of the related Divestiture Product Assets to an Acquirer;
 4. providing such resources as may be necessary to maintain the competitive strength and positioning of each of the Divestiture Products that were marketed or sold by Respondents prior to the date the Respondents entered the agreement to effect the Acquisition (as such agreement is identified in the definition of Acquisition);
 5. making available for use by each of the respective Divestiture Product Businesses funds sufficient to perform all routine maintenance and all other maintenance as may be necessary to, and all replacements of, the assets related to such Divestiture Product Business; and
 6. providing such support services to each of the respective Divestiture Product Businesses as were being provided to such Divestiture Product Business by Respondents as of the date the Consent Agreement was signed by Respondents.
- C. Until Respondents fully transfer and deliver each of the respective Divestiture Product Assets to an Acquirer, Respondents shall maintain a work force that is (i) substantially as

large in size (as measured in full time equivalents) as, and (ii) comparable in training, and expertise to, what has been associated with the Divestiture Products for the relevant Divestiture Product's last fiscal year.

D. For each Acquirer of a Divestiture Product, Respondents shall:

1. no later than the earlier of ten (10) days after a request from the Proposed Acquirer or ten (10) days before the Closing Date if requested by a Proposed Acquirer, provide to the Proposed Acquirer a list of all Employees and, in compliance with and to the extent permitted by all Laws, and an opportunity to inspect the personnel files and other documentation relating to such Employees. The list of Employees that Respondents shall provide shall include the following information for each Employee, as requested by the Proposed Acquirer, and to the extent permitted by Law:
 - a. name, job title or position, date of hire by the relevant Respondent, and effective service date;
 - b. specific description of the employee's responsibilities and primary work location;
 - c. the base salary or current wages;
 - d. most recent bonus paid, aggregate annual compensation for the relevant Respondent's last fiscal year, current target or guaranteed annual bonus or commission opportunities and target long term incentive opportunities, if applicable;
 - e. employment and leave status (i.e., active or on leave or disability); full-time or part-time; reason for leave and expected date of return from leave, in each case, if applicable; accrued and unused vacation, sick leave, and personal time off days;
 - f. any other material terms and conditions of employment in regard to such employee that are not otherwise generally available to similarly-situated employees; and
 - g. at the Proposed Acquirer's option, copies of all employee benefit plans and summary plan descriptions (if any) applicable to the Employee.
2. no later than ten (10) days before the Closing Date, allow the Proposed Acquirer an opportunity to meet personally and outside the presence or hearing of any employee or agent of Respondents with any Employee, and to make offers of employment to any one or more of the Employees;
3. not interfere, directly or indirectly, with the hiring or employing of any Employee by the Proposed Acquirer, not offer any incentive to any Employee to decline employment with the Proposed Acquirer, not make any counter-offer to any

Employee who has an outstanding offer of employment from the Proposed Acquirer or who has accepted an offer of employment from the Proposed Acquirer, and not otherwise interfere with the recruitment or employment of an Employee by the Proposed Acquirer;

4. remove any impediments within the control of Respondents that may deter any Employee from accepting employment with the Proposed Acquirer, including, but not limited to, removal of any non-compete or confidentiality provisions of employment or other contracts with Respondents that may affect the ability or incentive of the Employee(s) to accept employment with the Proposed Acquirer;
5. not, for a period of one (1) year from the Closing Date, directly or indirectly, solicit or otherwise attempt to induce any Employee who has accepted an offer of employment with the Acquirer to terminate his or her employment with the Acquirer; provided, however, that Respondents may:
 - a. advertise for employees in newspapers, trade publications, or other media, or engage recruiters to conduct general employee search activities, as long as this is not targeted specifically at Employees; or
 - b. hire Employees who apply for employment with Respondents, as long as such Employees were not solicited by Respondents in violation of this Paragraph II.D..

provided, however, that this Paragraph II.D. shall not prohibit Respondents from making offers of employment to or employing any Employee after the Closing Date where: (i) the Acquirer has notified Respondents in writing that the Acquirer does not intend to make an offer of employment to that Employee; (ii) the Acquirer has terminated the employment of the Employee; or (iii) where the Employee's employment with the Acquirer ended for any reason more than ninety (90) days prior to Respondents' solicitation of the Employee.

6. until the Closing Date, provide all Employees with reasonable financial incentives to continue in their positions and to research, Develop, manufacture, and/or market the Divestiture Product(s) consistent with past practices and/or as may be necessary to preserve the marketability, viability, and competitiveness of the Divestiture Product(s) and to ensure successful execution of the pre-Acquisition plans for that Divestiture Product(s). Such incentives shall include a continuation of all employee compensation and benefits offered by a Respondent until the Closing Date(s) for the divestiture of the assets related to the Divestiture Product has occurred, including regularly scheduled raises, bonuses, and vesting of pension benefits (as permitted by Law).
- E. During the Transition Period, with respect to each Divestiture Product that is marketed or sold before the Closing Date for that Divestiture Product, Respondents, in consultation with the relevant Acquirer, for the purposes of ensuring an orderly marketing and distribution transition, shall:

1. develop and implement a detailed transition plan to ensure that the commencement of the marketing, distribution, and sale of such Divestiture Products by the Acquirer is not delayed or impaired by the Respondents;
2. designate employees of Respondents knowledgeable about the marketing, distribution, and sale related to each of the Divestiture Products who will be responsible for communicating directly with the Acquirer, and the Monitor (if one has been appointed), for the purposes of assisting in the transfer to the Acquirer of the Business related to the Divestiture Products;
3. maintain and manage inventory levels of the Divestiture Products in consideration of the marketing and distribution transition to the Acquirer;
4. continue to market, distribute, and sell the Divestiture Products;
5. allow the Acquirer access at reasonable business hours to all Confidential Business Information related to the Divestiture Products and employees who possess or are able to locate such information for the purposes of identifying the books, records, and files directly related to the Divestiture Products that contain such Confidential Business Information pending the completed delivery of such Confidential Business Information to the Acquirer;
6. to the extent known or available to the specified Respondent, provide the Acquirer with a list of the inventory levels (weeks of supply) in the possession of each customer (*i.e.*, healthcare provider, hospital, group purchasing organization, wholesaler, or distributor) on a regular basis and in a timely manner;
7. to the extent known by the specified Respondent, provide the Acquirer with anticipated reorder dates for each customer on a regular basis and in a timely manner; and
8. establish projected time lines for accomplishing all tasks necessary to effect the marketing and distribution transition to the Acquirer in an efficient and timely manner.

F. Pending divestiture of the Divestiture Product Assets, Respondents shall:

1. not use, directly or indirectly, any Confidential Business Information related to the Business of the Divestiture Products other than as necessary to comply with the following:
 - a. the requirements of this Order;
 - b. Respondents' obligations to each respective Acquirer under the terms of any related Remedial Agreement; or
 - c. applicable Law;

2. not disclose or convey any such Confidential Business Information, directly or indirectly, to any Person except (i) the Acquirer of the particular Divestiture Assets, (ii) other Persons specifically authorized by such Acquirer to receive such information, (iii) the Commission, (iv) the Monitor (if any has been appointed), *except* to the extent necessary to comply with applicable law; and
 3. ensure that Confidential Business Information related exclusively to the Divestiture Products is not disseminated among the employees of the Respondents and institute procedures and requirements to ensure that the Respondents employees:
 - a. do not provide, disclose, or otherwise make available, directly or indirectly, any Confidential Business Information in contravention of this Order to Maintain Assets; and
 - b. do not solicit, access, or use any Confidential Business Information that they are prohibited from receiving for any reason or purpose.
- G. Not later than thirty (30) days from the earlier of (i) the Closing Date or (ii) the date this Order to Maintain Assets is issued by the Commission, Respondents shall provide written notification of the restrictions on the use and disclosure of the Confidential Business Information related to the Divestiture Products by that Respondent's personnel to all of its employees who (i) may be in possession of such Confidential Business Information or (ii) may have access to such Confidential Business Information.
- H. Respondents shall give the above-described notification by e-mail with return receipt requested or similar transmission, and keep a file of those receipts for one (1) year after the Closing Date. Respondents shall provide a copy of the notification to the relevant Acquirer. Respondents shall maintain complete records of all such notifications at that Respondent's registered office within the United States and shall provide an officer's certification to the Commission affirming the implementation of, and compliance with, the acknowledgment program. Respondents shall provide the relevant Acquirer with copies of all certifications, notifications, and reminders sent to that Respondent's personnel.
- I. Respondents shall monitor the implementation by its employees and other personnel of all applicable restrictions with respect to Confidential Business Information, and take corrective actions for the failure of such employees and personnel to comply with such restrictions or to furnish the written agreements and acknowledgments required by this Order to Maintain Assets.
- J. The purpose of this Order to Maintain Assets is to maintain the full economic viability, marketability and competitiveness of the Divestiture Product Businesses through their full transfer and delivery to an Acquirer; to minimize any risk of loss of competitive potential for the Divestiture Product Businesses; and to prevent the destruction, removal, wasting, deterioration, or impairment of any of the Divestiture Product Assets except for ordinary wear and tear.

III.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

- A. Mazars LLP shall serve as Monitor to assure that the Respondents expeditiously comply with all of their obligations and perform all of their responsibilities as required by the Decision and Order and the Order to Maintain Assets (collectively “Orders”), and the Remedial Agreements, pursuant to the agreement executed by the Monitor and Respondents and attached as Appendix I and Confidential Appendix I-1 to the Order to Maintain Assets. The Monitor Agreement shall become effective on the date the Order to Maintain Assets is issued. Respondents shall transfer to and confer upon the Monitor all the rights and powers necessary to permit the Monitor to perform his duties and responsibilities in a manner consistent with the purposes of the Orders. Respondents shall assure, and the Monitor Agreement shall provide, that:
1. The Monitor shall have the power and authority to monitor Respondents’ compliance with the divestiture and asset maintenance obligations and related requirements of the Orders, and shall exercise such power and authority and carry out the duties and responsibilities of the Monitor in a manner consistent with the purposes of the Orders and in consultation with the Commission.
 2. The Monitor shall act in a fiduciary capacity for the benefit of the Commission.
 3. The Monitor shall serve until the latter of:
 - a. the date the Respondents complete the transfer of all Divestiture Product Assets, and the transfer and delivery of the related Manufacturing Technology, Divestiture Product IP and Divestiture Product IP License; or
 - b. the date on which the relevant Acquirer commences the marketing, distribution, and sale of such Divestiture Product(s);

provided, however, that the Monitor’s service shall not extend more than four (4) years after the Order Date unless the Commission decides to extend or modify this period as may be necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes of the Orders.
- B. Subject to any demonstrated legally recognized privilege, the Monitor shall have full and complete access to Respondents’ personnel, books, documents, records kept in the ordinary course of business, facilities, and technical information, and such other relevant information as the Monitor may reasonably request, related to the Respondents’ compliance with its obligations under the Orders, including, but not limited to, its obligations related to the relevant assets. Respondents shall cooperate with any reasonable request of the Monitor and shall take no action to interfere with or impede the Monitor’s ability to monitor the Respondents’ compliance with the Orders.
- C. The Monitor shall serve, without bond or other security, at the expense of Respondents, on such reasonable and customary terms and conditions as the Commission may set. The

Monitor shall have authority to employ, at the expense of Respondents, such consultants, accountants, attorneys, and other representatives and assistants as are reasonably necessary to carry out the Monitor's duties and responsibilities.

- D. Respondents shall indemnify the Monitor and hold the Monitor harmless against any losses, claims, damages, liabilities, or expenses arising out of, or in connection with, the performance of the Monitor's duties, including all reasonable fees of counsel and other reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the preparations for, or defense of, any claim, whether or not resulting in any liability, except to the extent that such losses, claims, damages, liabilities, or expenses result from gross negligence, willful or wanton acts, or bad faith by the Monitor.
- E. Respondents shall report to the Monitor in accordance with the requirements of the Orders and as otherwise provided in any agreement approved by the Commission. The Monitor shall evaluate the reports submitted to the Monitor by a Respondent and any information submitted by each Acquirer with respect to the performance of a Respondent's obligations under the Orders or the Remedial Agreement(s). Within thirty (30) days from the date the Monitor receives these reports, the Monitor shall report in writing to the Commission concerning performance by Respondents of their obligations under the Orders.
- F. Respondents may require the Monitor and each of the Monitor's consultants, accountants, attorneys, and other representatives and assistants to sign a customary confidentiality agreement; *provided, however*, that such agreement shall not restrict the Monitor from providing any information to the Commission.
- G. The Commission may, among other things, require the Monitor and each of the Monitor's consultants, accountants, attorneys, and other representatives and assistants to sign an appropriate confidentiality agreement related to Commission materials and information received in connection with the performance of the Monitor's duties.
- H. If the Commission determines that the Monitor has ceased to act or failed to act diligently, the Commission may appoint a substitute Monitor in the same manner as provided in this Paragraph.
- I. The Commission may on its own initiative, or at the request of the Monitor, issue such additional orders or directions as may be necessary or appropriate to assure compliance with the requirements of the Orders.
- J. The Monitor appointed pursuant to this Order to Maintain Assets may be the same person appointed as the Monitor pursuant to the Decision and Order.
- K. The Monitor appointed pursuant to this Order to Maintain Assets may be the same person appointed as a Divestiture Trustee pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Decision and Order.

IV.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within thirty (30) days after the date this Order to Maintain Assets is issued by the Commission, and every thirty (30) days thereafter until Respondents have fully complied with this Order to Maintain Assets, Respondents shall submit to the Commission a verified written report setting forth in detail the manner and form in which they intend to comply, are complying, and have complied with the Orders. Respondents shall submit at the same time a copy of its report concerning compliance with the Orders to the Monitor, if any Monitor has been appointed. Respondents shall include in its reports, among other things that are required from time to time, a detailed description of its efforts to comply with the relevant paragraphs of the Orders, including:

- A. a detailed description of all substantive contacts, negotiations, or recommendations related to (i) the divestiture and transfer of all relevant assets and rights, and (ii) transitional services being provided by the relevant Respondent to the relevant Acquirer; and
- B. a detailed description of the timing for the completion of such obligations;

provided, however, that, after the Decision and Order in this matter becomes final and effective, the reports due under this Order to Maintain Assets may be consolidated with, and submitted to the Commission on the same timing as, the reports of compliance required to be submitted by Respondents pursuant to the Decision and Order.

V.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondents shall notify the Commission at least thirty (30) days prior to:

- A. any proposed dissolution of a Respondent;
- B. any proposed acquisition, merger, or consolidation of a Respondent; or
- C. any other change in a Respondent including, but not limited to, assignment and the creation or dissolution of subsidiaries, if such change might affect compliance obligations arising out of the Orders.

VI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, for purposes of determining or securing compliance with this Order, and subject to any legally recognized privilege, and upon written request and upon five (5) days' notice to any Respondent made to its principal United States offices, registered office of its United States subsidiary, or its headquarters address, that Respondents shall, without restraint or interference, permit any duly authorized representative of the Commission:

- A. access, during business office hours of that Respondent and in the presence of counsel, to all facilities and access to inspect and copy all books, ledgers, accounts, correspondence, memoranda, and all other records and documents in the possession or under the control of that Respondent related to compliance with this Order, which copying services shall be provided by that Respondent at the request of the authorized representative(s) of the Commission and at the expense of that Respondent; and
- B. to interview officers, directors, or employees of that Respondent, who may have counsel present, regarding such matters.

VII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order to Maintain Assets shall terminate on the later of:

- A. three (3) days after the Commission withdraws its acceptance of the Consent Agreement pursuant to the provisions of Commission Rule 2.34, 16 C.F.R. § 2.34;
- B. the day after the divestiture of all of the Divestiture Product Assets, as required by and described in the Decision and Order, has been completed; *provided, however*, that if at the time such divestitures have been completed, the Decision and Order in this matter is not yet final, then this Order to Maintain Assets shall terminate three (3) business days after the Decision and Order becomes final;
- C. the day after the Manufacturing Technology related to each Divestiture Product has been provided to the Acquirer and the Monitor (if one has been appointed), in consultation with Commission staff and the Acquirer(s), notifies the Commission that all assignments, conveyances, deliveries, grants, licenses, transactions, transfers, and other transitions related to the provision of the Manufacturing Technology are complete; or
- D. the day the Commission otherwise directs that this Order to Maintain Assets is terminated.

By the Commission.

Donald S. Clark
Secretary

SEAL:
ISSUED: December 22, 2017