VII. The Proposed Consent Order

To remedy the alleged competitive concern associated with access to the DPSG commercially sensitive confidential information, the consent decree prevents that information from reaching PepsiCo employees who could use it to either harm DPSG or to facilitate collusion. PepsiCo must set up a firewall to prevent persons responsible for “concentrate-related functions” – the kinds of functions in which PepsiCo engaged as a competitor of DPSG when both had their brands distributed by PBG and PAS – from access to the DPSG information. Persons at PepsiCo who are assigned to perform traditional “bottler functions” – the kinds of functions that PBG and PAS historically have performed for DPSG – will be permitted access to that information.

The proposed Consent Agreement also provides for the appointment of a monitor to assure PepsiCo’s compliance with the Consent Agreement. The monitor will have a fiduciary responsibility to the Commission. The monitor will be appointed for a five (5) year term, but the Commission may extend or modify the term as appropriate.

The order, like the DPSG-Pepsi license agreement, will have a term of twenty (20) years.

VIII. Opportunity for Public Comment

The Consent Agreement has been placed on the public record for thirty (30) days for receipt of comments from interested persons. Comments received during this period will become part of the public record. After thirty days, the Commission will again review the proposed Consent Agreement, as well as the comments received, and will decide whether it should withdraw from the Consent Agreement or make final the Decision and Order.

By accepting the Consent Agreement subject to final approval, the Commission anticipates that the competitive problem alleged in the Complaint will be resolved. The purpose of this analysis is to invite and facilitate public comment concerning the Consent Agreement. It is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the proposed Consent Agreement, nor is it intended to modify the terms of the Decision and Order in any way.

By direction of the Commission,

Donald S. Clark,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2010–4894 Filed 3–8–10; 11:48 am]

BILLING CODE 6750–01–S

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[File No. 072 3165]

Richard J. Stanton; Analysis of Proposed Consent Order to Aid Public Comment

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Proposed Consent Agreement.

SUMMARY: The consent agreement in this matter settles alleged violations of federal law prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts or practices or unfair methods of competition. The attached Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes both the allegations in the draft complaint and the terms of the consent order — embodied in the consent agreement — that would settle these allegations.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 29, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments electronically or in paper form. Comments should refer to “Richard J. Stanton, File No. 072 3165” to facilitate the organization of comments. Please note that your comment — including your name and your state — will be placed on the public record of this proceeding, including on the publicly accessible FTC website, at (http://www.ftc.gov/os/publiccomments.shtm).

Because comments will be made public, they should not include any sensitive personal information, such as an individual’s Social Security Number; date of birth; driver’s license number or other state identification number, or foreign country equivalent; passport number; financial account number; or credit or debit card number. Comments also should not include any sensitive health information, such as medical records or other individually identifiable health information. In addition, comments should not include any “[trade secret or any commercial or financial information which is obtained from any person and which is privileged or confidential. …]” as provided in Section 6(f) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and Commission Rule 4.10(a)(2), 16 C.F.R. 4.10(a)(2). Comments containing material for which confidential treatment is requested must be filed in paper form, must be clearly labeled “Confidential,” and must comply with FTC Rule 4.9(c), 16 CFR 4.9(c).1

1 The comment must be accompanied by an explicit request for confidential treatment, including the factual and legal basis for the request, and must identify the specific portions of the document to be withheld from the public record.

The request will be granted or denied by the Commission’s General Counsel, consistent with applicable law and the public interest. See FTC Rule 4.9(c), 16 CFR 4.9(c).

Because paper mail addressed to the FTC is subject to delay due to heightened security screening, please consider submitting your comments in electronic form. Comments filed in electronic form should be submitted by using the following weblink: (https://public.commentworks.com/ftc/richardjstanton) and following the instructions on the web-based form. To ensure that the Commission considers an electronic comment, you must file it on the web-based form at the weblink: (https://public.commentworks.com/ftc/richardjstanton). If this Notice appears at (http://www.regulations.gov/search/index.jsp), you may also file an electronic comment through that website. The Commission will consider all comments that regulations.gov forwards to it. You may also visit the FTC website at (http://www.ftc.gov/) to read the Notice and the news release describing it.

A comment filed in paper form should include the “Richard J. Stanton, File No. 072 3165” reference both in the text and on the envelope, and should be mailed or delivered to the following address: Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Secretary, Room H-135 (Annex D), 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. The FTC is requesting that any comment filed in paper form be sent by courier or overnight service, if possible, because U.S. postal mail in the Washington area and at the Commission is subject to delay due to heightened security precautions.

The Federal Trade Commission Act (“FTC Act”) and other laws the Commission administers permit the collection of public comments to consider and use in this proceeding as appropriate. The Commission will consider all timely and responsive public comments that it receives, whether filed in paper or electronic form. Comments received will be available to the public on the FTC website, to the extent practicable, at (http://www.ftc.gov/os/publiccomments.shtm). As a matter of discretion, the Commission makes every effort to remove home contact information for individuals from the public comments it receives before placing those comments on the FTC website. More information, including routine uses permitted by the Privacy Act, may be found in the FTC’s privacy policy, at (http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/privacy.shtm).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura Berger (202-326-2471), Bureau of

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 6(f) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 38 Stat. 721, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and § 2.34 of the Commission Rules of Practice, 16 CFR 2.34, notice is hereby given that the above-captioned consent agreement containing a consent order to cease and desist, having been filed with and accepted, subject to final approval, by the Commission, has been placed on the public record for a period of thirty (30) days. The following Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes the terms of the consent agreement, and the allegations in the complaint. An electronic copy of the full text of the consent agreement package can be obtained from the FTC Home Page (for February 25, 2010), on the World Wide Web, at (http://www.ftc.gov/os/actions.shtm). A paper copy can be obtained from the FTC Public Reference Room, Room 130-H, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580, either in person or by calling (202) 326-2222. Public comments are invited, and may be filed with the Commission in either paper or electronic form. All comments should be filed as prescribed in the ADDRESSES section above, and must be received on or before the date specified in the DATES section.

Analysis of Agreement Containing Consent Order to Aid Public Comment

The Federal Trade Commission (“FTC” or “Commission”) has accepted, subject to final approval, an agreement containing a consent order from Richard J. Stanton (“respondent”), the founder and former Chief Executive Officer of ControlScan, Inc. (“ControlScan”). The Commission has entered into a separate settlement with ControlScan to be filed in federal district court in the Northern District of Georgia.

The proposed consent order has been placed on the public record for thirty (30) days for receipt of comments by interested persons. Comments received during this period will become part of the public record. After thirty (30) days, the Commission again will review the agreement and the comments received and will decide whether it should withdraw from the agreement or make final the agreement’s proposed order.

This matter involves respondent’s marketing and distribution of a variety of online seal certification marks (“website seals” or “seals”) for companies to display on their websites. The FTC complaint alleges that respondent violated Section 5(a) of the FTC Act by falsely representing to consumers that ControlScan had verified the privacy and data security practices of companies displaying its website seals, when in fact it had not. Specifically, the complaint alleges that respondent falsely represented to consumers that ControlScan had verified the privacy and security protections offered by a company displaying ControlScan’s Business Background Reviewed, Registered Member, Privacy Protected, and Privacy Reviewed seals, and falsely represented how frequently ControlScan reviewed such companies’ fitness to display each of these seals. In addition, the complaint alleges that respondent falsely represented to consumers how frequently ControlScan reviewed companies’ fitness to display the Verified Secure seal. The FTC complaint describes, with specificity, the claims respondent made regarding ControlScan’s verification of a company displaying each of the challenged seals, as well as the verification that ControlScan in fact conducted in connection with each seal.

The proposed consent order contains provisions designed to prevent respondent from engaging in similar acts and practices in the future. Part I of the proposed order prohibits respondent from misrepresenting: 1) the verification that is conducted concerning the protection that a company provides for the privacy and/or security of consumer information or the steps a company has taken to provide such protection; or 2) the frequency of such verification. Part II requires respondent to pay to the Commission $102,000 in equitable monetary relief. Parts III through VI of the proposed order are reporting and compliance provisions. Part III requires respondent to keep copies of documents relevant to compliance with the order for a five-year period. Part IV requires respondent to provide copies of the order to certain personnel of companies he controls, and Part V requires him to notify the Commission of changes in his employment or affiliation with any business that involves offering or providing seals or related products or services. Part VI mandates that respondent file an initial compliance report with the Commission and respond to other requests from FTC staff. Part VII is a provision “sunsetting” the order after twenty (20) years, with certain exceptions.

The purpose of this analysis is to facilitate public comment on the proposed order. It is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the agreement and proposed order or to modify in any way its terms.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2010–4897 Filed 3–8–10; 11:16 am]

BILLING CODE 6750–01–S

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[File No. 091 0062]

Transitions Optical, Inc.; Analysis to Aid Public Comment

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Proposed Consent Agreement.

SUMMARY: The consent agreement in this matter settles alleged violations of federal law prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts or practices or unfair methods of competition. The attached Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes both the allegations in the draft complaint and the terms of the consent order—embodied in the consent agreement—that would settle these allegations.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 5, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments electronically or in paper form. Comments should refer to “Transitions Optical, File No. 091 0062” to facilitate the organization of comments. Please note that your comment—including your name and your state—will be placed on the public record of this proceeding, including on the publicly accessible FTC website, at (http://www.ftc.gov/os/publiccomments.shtm).

Because comments will be made public, they should not include any sensitive personal information, such as an individual’s Social Security Number; date of birth; driver’s license number or other state identification number, or foreign country equivalent; passport number; financial account number; or credit or debit card number. Comments also should not include any sensitive health information, such as medical records or other individually identifiable health information. In addition, comments should not include any “[t]rade secret or any commercial or financial information which is obtained from any person and which is privileged or confidential….” as provided in Section 6(f) of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 46(f), and Commission Rule 4.10(a)(2), 16 CFR 4.10(a)(2). Comments containing material for which confidential treatment is requested must be filed in paper form, must be clearly labeled...