UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (USPTO)
OFFICE ACTION (OFFICIAL LETTER) ABOUT APPLICANT'S TRADEMARK APPLICATION

APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 79114092

MARK: B LACTA

79114092

CORRESPONDENT ADDRESS:
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APPLICANT: Bio-Rad Laboratories SAS

CLICK HERE TO RESPOND TO THIS LETTER:
http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/response_forms.jsp

CORRESPONDENT'S REFERENCE/DOCKET NO:
N/A
CORRESPONDENT E-MAIL ADDRESS:

OFFICE ACTION

STRICT DEADLINE TO RESPOND TO THIS LETTER

INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION NO. 1119339

STRICT DEADLINE TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTIFICATION: TO AVOID ABANDONMENT OF THE REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF PROTECTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION ABOVE, THE USPTO MUST RECEIVE A COMPLETE RESPONSE TO THIS REFUSAL WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF THE "DATE ON WHICH THE NOTIFICATION WAS SENT TO WIPO (MAILING DATE)" LOCATED ON THE WIPO COVER LETTER ACCOMPANYING THIS NOTIFICATION.

The "Mailing Date" appearing on the WIPO cover letter may also be found through the USPTO's Trademark Status and Document Retrieval (TSDR) system at http://tsdr.uspto.gov/. Please enter the U.S. Application Serial Number for this application and select "Documents." The "Mailing Date" is the "Create/Mail Date" of the "IB-1rst Refusal Note."

This is a **PROVISIONAL FULL REFUSAL** of the request for extension of protection of the mark in the above-referenced U.S. application. *See* 15 U.S.C. §1141h(c).

WHO IS PERMITTED TO RESPOND TO THIS PROVISIONAL FULL REFUSAL: Applicant may respond directly to this provisional refusal Office action if applicant is not represented by an authorized attorney. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.193(e)(2)(ii). Otherwise, applicant's authorized attorney must respond on applicant's behalf. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.193(e)(2)(i). However, **the only attorneys who are authorized to sign responses and practice before the USPTO** in trademark matters are as follows:

(1) **Attorneys in good standing with a bar of the highest court of any U.S. state**, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and other federal territories and possessions of the United States.

(2) **Canadian agents/attorneys** who represent applicants located in Canada and (a) are registered with the USPTO and in good standing as patent agents or (b) have been granted reciprocal recognition by the USPTO.

See 37 C.F.R. §§2.17(e), 2.62(b), 11.1, 11.5(b)(2), 11.14(a), (c); TMEP §§602, 712.03.

Foreign attorneys, other than authorized Canadian attorneys, are not permitted to represent applicants before the USPTO. *See* 37 C.F.R. §§2.17(e), 11.14(c), (e); TMEP §602.03-.03(b). That is, foreign attorneys may not file written communications, authorize an amendment to an application, or submit legal arguments in response to a requirement or refusal, among other things. *See* 37 C.F.R. §11.5(b)(2); TMEP §§602.03(c), 608.01. If applicant is represented by such a foreign attorney, applicant must respond directly to this provisional refusal Office action. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.193(e)(2)(ii).

DESIGNATION OF DOMESTIC REPRESENTATIVE: The USPTO encourages applicants who do not reside in the United States to designate a domestic representative upon whom notices or process may be served. 15 U.S.C. §§1051(e), 1141h(d); 37 C.F.R. §2.24(a)(1)-(2); *see* TMEP §610. Such designations may be filed online at http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/index.jsp.

THE APPLICATION HAS BEEN PROVISIONALLY REFUSED AS SPECIFIED BELOW.

The referenced application has been reviewed by the assigned trademark examining attorney. Applicant must respond timely and completely to the issue(s) below. 15 U.S.C. §1062(b); 37 C.F.R. §§2.62(a), 2.65(a); TMEP §§711, 718.03.

NO CONFLICTING MARKS NOTED

The trademark examining attorney has searched the Office's database of registered and pending marks and has found no conflicting marks that would bar registration under Trademark Act Section 2(d). TMEP §704.02; *see* 15 U.S.C. §1052(d).

SUMMARY OF ISSUES

1) Significance of Wording in Mark.

GENERAL INQUIRY ON SIGNIFICANCE

Applicant must explain whether "β LACTA" separately or together, has any meaning or significance in the industry in which the goods are manufactured/provided, or if such wording is a "term of art" within applicant's industry. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.61(b); TMEP §814.

Further, applicant must provide additional information about this wording to enable proper examination of the application. An applicant can be required to provide more information if it is necessary to the proper examination of the application. 37 C.F.R. §2.61(b); TMEP §§814, 1402.01(e); *see In re Cheezwhse.com, Inc.*, 85 USPQ2d 1917, 1919 (TTAB 2008); *In re DTI P'ship LLP*, 67 USPQ2d 1699, 1701-02 (TTAB 2003).

Therefore, applicant must submit samples of advertisements or promotional materials and/or a photograph of the identified goods. If such materials are not available, then applicant must submit samples of advertisements or promotional materials and a photograph of *similar* goods. In addition, applicant must describe in detail the nature, purpose and channels of trade of the goods.

Additionally, applicant must also respond to the following question:

Do the applicant's goods contain beta-lactam or detect beta-lactam resistant bacteria.

Failure to respond to a request for information is an additional ground for refusing registration. *See In re Cheezwhse.com, Inc.*, 85 USPQ2d 1917, 1919 (TTAB 2008); *In re DTI P'ship LLP*, 67 USPQ2d 1699, 1701 (TTAB 2003); TMEP §814.

RESPONSE GUIDELINES

For this application to proceed toward registration, applicant must explicitly address each refusal and/or requirement raised in this Office action. If the action includes a refusal, applicant may provide arguments and/or evidence as to why the refusal should be withdrawn and the mark should register. Applicant may also have other options for responding to a refusal and should consider such options carefully. To respond to requirements and certain refusal response options, applicant should set forth in writing the required changes or statements.

If applicant does not respond to this Office action within six months of the issue/mailing date, or responds by expressly abandoning the application, the application process will end, the trademark will fail to register, and the application fee will not be refunded. See 15 U.S.C. §1062(b); 37 C.F.R. §§2.65(a), 2.68(a), 2.209(a); TMEP §§405.04, 718.01, 718.02. Where the application has been abandoned for failure to respond to an Office action, applicant's only option would be to file a timely petition to revive the application, which, if granted, would allow the application to return to live status. See 37 C.F.R. §2.66; TMEP §1714. There is a $100 fee for such petitions. See 37 C.F.R. §§2.6, 2.66 (b)(1).

If applicant has questions regarding this Office action, please telephone or e-mail the assigned trademark examining attorney. All relevant e-mail communications will be placed in the official application record; however, an e-mail communication will not be accepted as a response to this Office action and will not extend the deadline for filing a proper response. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.191; TMEP §§304.01-.02, 709.04-.05. Further, although the trademark examining attorney may provide additional explanation pertaining to the refusal(s) and/or requirement(s) in this Office action, the trademark examining attorney may not provide legal advice or statements about applicant's rights. *See* TMEP §§705.02, 709.06.

PLEASE NOTE: Because it delays processing, submission of duplicate papers is discouraged. Unless specifically requested to do so by the Office, parties should not mail follow up copies of documents transmitted by fax. *Cf. ITC Entertainment Group Ltd. V. Nintendo of America Inc.* 45 USPQ2d 2021 (TTAB 1998).

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TO RESPOND TO THIS LETTER: Go to http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/teas/response_forms.jsp. Please wait 48-72 hours from the issue/mailing date before using TEAS, to allow for necessary system updates of the application. For *technical* assistance with online forms, e-mail TEAS@uspto.gov. For questions about the Office action itself, please contact the assigned trademark examining attorney. **E-mail communications will not be accepted as responses to Office actions; therefore, do not respond to this Office action by e-mail.**

All informal e-mail communications relevant to this application will be placed in the official application record.

WHO MUST SIGN THE RESPONSE: It must be personally signed by an individual applicant or someone with legal authority to bind an applicant (i.e., a corporate officer, a general partner, all joint applicants). If an applicant is represented by an attorney, the attorney must sign the response.

PERIODICALLY CHECK THE STATUS OF THE APPLICATION: To ensure that applicant does not miss crucial deadlines or official notices, check the status of the application every three to four months using Trademark Applications and Registrations Retrieval (TARR) at http://tarr.uspto.gov/. Please keep a copy of the complete TARR screen. If TARR shows no change for more than six months, call 1-800-786-

9199. For more information on checking status, see http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/process/status/.

TO UPDATE CORRESPONDENCE/E-MAIL ADDRESS: Use the TEAS form at http://www.uspto.gov/teas/eTEASpageE.htm.