

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES



In the Matter of)
)
)

Otto Bock HealthCare North America, Inc.,)

a corporation,)
)
)

Respondent.)

)

DOCKET NO. 9378

**ORDER GRANTING RESPONDENT’S UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR
LEAVE TO AMEND ITS ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

On February 13, 2018, Respondent Otto Bock HealthCare North America, Inc. (“Ottobock”) filed an unopposed motion to amend the Answer and Affirmative Defenses filed by Ottobock on January 10, 2018 (“Motion”).

Respondent’s January 10, 2018 Answer avered that Respondent “lacks sufficient information or knowledge to admit or deny” several allegations in the Complaint regarding FIH Group Holdings, LLC (‘Freedom Innovations’ or ‘Freedom’).” Respondent states that Federal Trade Commission (“FTC”) Complaint Counsel has requested that Respondent amend its Answer to supplement certain responses regarding Freedom Innovations, which Respondent acquired on September 22, 2017.

Rule 3.15(a) of the FTC’s Rules of Practice sets forth: “If and whenever determination of a controversy on the merits will be facilitated thereby, the Administrative Law Judge may, upon such conditions as are necessary to avoid prejudicing the public interest and the rights of the parties, allow appropriate amendments to pleadings” 16 C.F.R. § 3.15(a).

Respondent believes, and Respondent states that Complaint Counsel has represented to Respondent that Complaint Counsel believes, that allowing the requested amendment will facilitate determination of this controversy on the merits. Respondent further argues that the public interest will be served by granting leave to amend and there is no prejudice to either side in allowing the requested amendments.

Upon consideration of the above stated reasons, the Unopposed Motion is GRANTED, and it is hereby ORDERED that Respondent may file with the Office of the Secretary of the FTC the public and confidential version of the Amended Answer attached as Exhibit A to the public and confidential versions of the Motion, no later than February 16, 2018. This Order shall not impact any deadlines in the Scheduling Order.

ORDERED:

Dm Chappell

D. Michael Chappell
Chief Administrative Law Judge

Date: February 14, 2018

Notice of Electronic Service

I hereby certify that on February 14, 2018, I filed an electronic copy of the foregoing Order Granting Respondent's Motion for Leave to Amend Its Answer and Affirmative Defenses, with:

D. Michael Chappell
Chief Administrative Law Judge
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Donald Clark
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I hereby certify that on February 14, 2018, I served via E-Service an electronic copy of the foregoing Order Granting Respondent's Motion for Leave to Amend Its Answer and Affirmative Defenses, upon:

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