2 3 4 5 6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 7 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 8 BOLAND, INC., a California corporation dba S&S SUPPLIES, 10 NO. CIV. S-08-2201 LKK/JFM Plaintiff, 11 AMENDED ν. PRETRIAL CONFERENCE ORDER 12 [TENTATIVE] ROLF C. HAGEN (USA) CORP., 13 and DOES 1 through 50, inclusive, 14 Boland, Inc. v. Rolf C. Hagen (USAD@@ndants. 15 16 Pursuant to court order, a Pretrial Conference was held in 17 Chambers on April 12, 2010. CHRISTOPHER W. SWEENEY appeared as counsel for plaintiff; LAWRENCE E. BUTLER and ANDREA K. ANAPOLSKY 18 19 appeared as counsel for defendants. After hearing, the court makes 20 the following findings and orders: 21 JURISDICTION/VENUE 22 Jurisdiction is heretofore been found to be proper under 28 23 U.S.C. § 1332. Venue is found to be proper under 28 U.S.C. § 24 1391(a). Those orders are confirmed.

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II.

The trial will be to the court.

JURY/NON-JURY

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### III. <u>UNDISPUTED FACTS</u>

- A. Undisputed Facts Relevant to all Causes of Action
- Defendant Rolf C. Hagen (USA) Corp. ("Hagen") is a
   Massachusetts corporation.
- 2. Hagen is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Rolf C. Hagen Incorporated ("Parent Co.").
- 3. Hagen is in the business of selling pet specialty products within the U.S.
- 4. Dieter Hagen joined Parent Co. in October 1959 and has been an employee of Parent Co. since then.
  - 5. Dieter Hagen is on the Board of Directors of Parent Co.
- 6. Dieter Hagen has been the Senior Vice President of Parent Co. and all of its subsidiaries since the 1970s.
- 7. Trevor Hagen, Dieter Hagen's son, worked for Parent Co. from 1985 to 1991.
- 8. Trevor Hagen worked for Hagen from February 1992 to February 2008.
- 9. Trevor Hagen was a regional sales manager for Hagen from February 1992 to 2001.
- 10. Trevor Hagen's duties as regional sales manager included working with distributors and retailers in Southern California.
- 11. Trevor Hagen was the general manger/COO of Hagen from 2001 to 2007.
- 12. Trevor Hagen's obligation as general manager/COO was to operate Hagen.
  - 13. Trevor Hagen developed the Gold Dealer program and the

Hagen Direct program.

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- 14. From the time Hagen started using U.S. distributors until February 2007, Hagen generally offered distributors a discount price based on volume
- 15. The Board of Directors of Parent Co. approved the Hagen Direct Program.
- 16. Dieter Hagen participated in the Board's decision to approve the Hagen Direct program.
- 17. Trevor Hagen prepared and presented materials to the Board of Directors of Parent Co. with respect to the Hagen Direct program.
- 18. Hagen formally launched Hagen Direct effective February 12, 2007.
- 19. After the launch of Hagen Direct, all retailers and distributors, including Plaintiff, were offered the same unified pricing schedule and were free to purchase Hagen Products.
- 20. After implementation of the Hagen Direct Program, Hagen sold its products directly to retail customers that had formerly worked through the distribution chain with Plaintiff.
- 21. Plaintiff Boland Inc., dba as S&S Supplies ("Plaintiff"), is a California corporation.
- 22. Plaintiff's principal place of business is in Fairfield, California.
  - 23. Plaintiff is a distributor of pet supplies to independently owned pet stores.
    - 24. Plaintiff has a distribution facility in Fairfield,

California.

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- 25. Plaintiff leased a distribution facility in the State of Washington starting in 2005.
- 26. Sam Sarkissian is the Plaintiff's Founder, President and CEO.
  - 27. Sam Sarkissian is on Plaintiff's Board of Directors.
- 28. Greg Sarkissian was Plaintiff's general manager from January 2009 until approximately December 2009.
- 29. Linda Kusaka was Plaintiff's general manager from 2001 through November 2007.
- 30. Linda Kusaka was responsible for sending information to Hagen with respect to the Gold Dealer Program.
- 31. Linda Kusaka sent Hagen the net dollar amounts for Hagen products sold by Plaintiff to retailers.
- B. Undisputed Factual Issues Relevant to Plaintiff's Breach of Contract Claim
- 1. After 1993, Plaintiff sold products from other manufacturers during the time it was distributing Hagen's products.
- 2. Hagen sold its products to other distributors within the same geographical region as Plaintiff.
- 3. Sam Sarkissian and Dieter Hagen never discussed conditions for termination of any relationship between Hagen and Plaintiff.
- 4. Hagen always established the pricing terms for the products it sold to Plaintiff.

- 5. Plaintiff had no right to and never did negotiate prices with Hagen.
- 6. Plaintiff requested that Hagen accept the return of the "Disputed Inventory" and refund the price paid by plaintiff for the products.
- 7. After Hagen's implementation of the Hagen Direct program, plaintiff did not purchase any additional products from Hagen for distribution to its retail customers.

#### IV. DISPUTED FACTUAL ISSUES

- A. Disputed Facts Relevant to All Causes of Action
- 1. Whether or not, prior to February 2007, Hagen sold pet specialty supplies primarily, but not exclusively, through distributors in the United States.
- 2. Whether or not, prior to February 2007, Hagen sold pet specialty supplies products to the following retailers in the U.S.:
  All Pet, PetSmart, PetCo and Petlands.
- 3. Whether or not Hagen decided to implement the Hagen Direct Program because, like other manufactures, Hagen faced shrinking margins, decreased volume, increased competition from other manufactures that had gone direct, distributors "low-balling" manufacturers' products, internet companies selling at cost or below cost prices, and large retailers doing high volume, low cost business and establishing their own brands.
- 4. Whether or not, when Hagen decided to implement the Hagen Direct Program, several publicly traded companies like PetSmart, Petco, and the publicly traded Central Garden and Pet Company

(which not only manufactured and imported many major brands but also used it's wholly owned national distribution network to directly sell those brands into retail) had already been selling direct to retailers.

- 5. Whether or not Hagen decided to implement the Hagen Direct Program because Hagen determined that within a few years of continuing to do business with the distributor model, Hagen would go bankrupt or forced to downsize to a level at which it would make no sense to continue in business.
- 6. Whether or not all of Hagen's distributors received a copy of the letter attached as the only exhibit to Plaintiff's Complaint filed on or about August 22, 2008 (the "Complaint").
- 7. Whether or not at the beginning of the distribution relationship, defendant's Vice President of Sales visited Sam Sarkissian at his Richmond warehouse and offered plaintiff the Hagen line of products. (Hagen comment: Not relevant.)
- 8. Whether or not during the initial discussions regarding the distribution agreement, Dieter Hagen told plaintiff that defendant Hagen was a family owned company and that plaintiff would be supported by Hagen and would "become like a family." (Hagen comment: Not relevant.)
- 9. Whether or not during initial discussions, Dieter Hagen was acting on behalf of the parent company Rolf C. Hagen, Inc. and on behalf of defendant Rolf C. Hagen (USA) Corp. (Hagen comment: legal issue.)
  - 10. Whether or not defendant Hagen began distributing its

products in the United States in 1975. (Hagen's comment: Irrelevant.)

- 11. Whether or not Hagen sold its products through a distribution model in the United States because the country was too large of an area to sell direct to retailers. (Hagen's comment: Irrelevant.)
- 12. Whether or not at the time plaintiff became a distributor of Hagen's products, Hagen was not selling or distributing its products directly to retailers in plaintiff's distribution area. (Hagen's comment: Irrelevant.)
- 13. Whether or not prior to 2007, Hagen had a uniform pricing schedule for all of its distributors, comprised of a distributor price and a "suggested dealer" (or retailer) price. (Hagen's comment: Irrelevant; Plaintiff concedes that Hagen controlled pricing. See I.B.4-5.)
- 14. Whether or not pursuant to this pricing schedule, Hagen would sell its products to its distributors for 1/3 of its suggested dealer price, and would offer additional discounts to distributors. (Hagen's comment: Irrelevant; Plaintiff concedes that Hagen controlled pricing. See I.B.4-5.)
- 15. Whether or not Hagen expected its distributors to support the product line and give a "good representation" of Hagen's total product mix.
- 16. Whether or not Hagen did not require its distributors to distribute only Hagen products because this requirement would be "impossible." (Hagen's comment: Irrelevant.)

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- 17. Whether or not in order to remain economically viable, Hagen's distributors had to distribute multiple manufacturers' products that were competitive with each other. (Hagen's comment: Irrelevant.)
- 18. Whether or not the Hagen company was a "family operation" that had personal relationships with its distributors, including plaintiff, that did business with its distributors handshake."
- 19. Whether or not Dieter Hagen had a "good relationship" with Sam Sarkissian. (Hagen's comment: Irrelevant.)
- Whether or not Trevor Hagen, Hagen's Chief Operating Officer and general manager from 2001 to 2007, had "tremendous respect for Sam as an independent businessman. (Hagen's comment: Irrelevant.)
- 21. Whether or not over the years of the distribution relationship between plaintiff and defendant Hagen, Dieter Hagen, its' Vice President of Sales, never heard from anyone at Hagen that the relationship was not profitable for Hagen. (Hagen's comment: Irrelevant.)
- 22. Whether or not over the years of the distribution relationship between plaintiff and defendant Hagen, Dieter Hagen, its' Vice President of Sales, never heard from anyone at Hagen that plaintiff had failed to fairly represent the Hagen line with its dealers. (Hagen's comment: Irrelevant.)
- 23. Whether or not Hagen's decision to sell direct to retailers pursuant to the Hagen Direct Program had anything to do

with plaintiff's performance as a distributor of Hagen's products.

- 24. Whether or not, pursuant to the distribution agreement, the parties agreed that the parties' distribution relationship would continue as long as plaintiff continued to use its best efforts to promote and solicit the sale of Hagen's products, and in fact distributed Hagen products throughout S&S Supplies' market area through plaintiff's distribution facilities.
- 25. Whether or not over the 15 years of the parties' distribution relationship pursuant to the Distribution Agreement, plaintiff purchased and distributed over \$8,000,000.00 of Hagen products to its retail customers. (Hagen's comment: Irrelevant.)
- 26. Whether or not, after entering into the Distribution Agreement with Hagen, plaintiff expanded its Richmond, California warehouse by an additional 7000 square feet to accommodate the Hagen inventory and ultimately relocated to a larger 50,000 square foot warehouse in Fairfield, California.
- 27. Whether or not after entering into the Distribution Agreement with Hagen, plaintiff increased its sales force and purchased additional trucks to facilitate the promotion and distribution of Hagen products.
- 28. Whether or not, throughout the entirety of the distribution relationship up until Hagen implemented the Hagen Direct Program and offered its products directly to retailers of plaintiff, plaintiff promoted Hagen's products and provided distribution facilities in California and Washington over a total of more than 15 years, and successfully marketed and sold Hagen's

products throughout its distribution area.

- 29. Whether or not plaintiff took these actions with the express understanding and agreement that Hagen would continue to supply and ship its products to plaintiff for distribution to plaintiff's retail customers throughout its market area in California and the western United States.
- 30. Whether or not plaintiff was informed by defendant Hagen, or required under the Distribution Agreement to promote Hagen's products before promoting products from other manufacturers. Nor was plaintiff ever notified or required by Hagen to instruct plaintiff's salespeople to promote Hagen products ahead of competing product lines.
- 31. Whether or not the only remaining distribution of Hagen products by plaintiff after implementation of the Hagen Direct program, was the attempted distribution and sale of remaining Hagen inventory in plaintiff's warehouse facilities.
- 32. Whether or not after implementation of the Hagen Direct Program, Hagen opened a 120,000 square foot distribution facility in California in April 2007; prior to that time, Hagen had no distribution facility west of the Mississippi River. (Hagen's comment: irrelevant.)
- 33. Whether or not after implementation of the Hagen Direct Program, Hagen "wouldn't be doing [its] job" if at least one of plaintiff's retail customers didn't receive products directly from Hagen. (Hagen's comment: irrelevant.)
  - 34. Whether or not over the course of Trevor Hagen's duties

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 as COO of Hagen, he ever recommended to anyone at the company that Hagen stop distributing its products through plaintiff. (Hagen's comment: irrelevant.)

- B. Disputed Facts Relevant to Plaintiff's Breach of Contract and Breach of the Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing Claims
- 1. Whether or not any agreement was reached between Plaintiff and Hagen, which included terms as alleged by Plaintiff in its Complaint.
- 2. Whether or not, assuming an agreement was reached between Plaintiff and Hagen, the agreement was reached in 1993.
- 3. Whether or not, Dieter Hagen was involved in the selection of new distributors in the United States.
- 4. Whether or not, Dieter Hagen negotiated any contract with Sam Sarkissian.
- 5. Whether or not, Trevor Hagen was involved in negotiating the terms of any distribution relationships during the time in which he was a regional sales manager.
- 6. Whether or not, Trevor Hagen was involved with negotiating the terms of any distribution relationship between Hagen and Plaintiff.
- 7. Whether or not, the general manager of Hagen, Joseph Sesnovich, and/or his successor, Robert Baskinger, were responsible for selecting distributors in the United States.
- 8. Whether or not distributors were under any obligation to Hagen to pass the discount that the distributor received from Hagen to the retailer.

- 10. Whether or not, assuming an agreement was reached between Plaintiff and Hagen, the agreement included a term requiring Hagen never to sell directly to retailers in the United States.
- a. Whether or not, assuming there was an agreement which included a term requiring Hagen never to sell directly to retailers in the United States, Plaintiff agreed to a mutually binding obligation
- b. Whether or not, assuming there was an agreement which included a term requiring Hagen never to sell directly to retailers in the United States, and assuming that Plaintiff agreed to a mutually binding obligation, Plaintiff complied with that obligation.
- 11. Whether or not, assuming an agreement was reached between Plaintiff and Hagen, it was also a term of the agreement that the agreement would continue as long as Plaintiff used its "best efforts" to promote and solicit the sale of Hagen's products, and in fact distributed Hagen's products.
- a. Whether or not, assuming there is an agreement between Hagen and Plaintiff, Plaintiff fully performed its obligations under the so-called agreement, which Plaintiff has alleged in the Complaint was to use its best efforts to promote and sell Hagen's products.
- b. Whether or not, assuming there was an agreement which included a term requiring Plaintiff to promote Hagen's

 products, the parameters of Plaintiff's obligations in promoting these products was discussed and agreed to by Hagen and Plaintiff.

- c. Whether or not, assuming there was an agreement which included a term requiring Plaintiff to incur expense in promoting Hagen products, Plaintiff actually incurred such expense specific to Hagen products.
- 12. Whether or not, assuming there was an agreement, Plaintiff promoted competing product lines ahead of Hagen's products.
- 13. Whether or not Hagen contributed to Plaintiff's costs to promote/market Hagen products.
- 14. Whether or not, assuming an agreement was reached between Plaintiff and Hagen, it was also a term of the agreement that Plaintiff must open a warehouse in the Northwest region of the United States.
- 15. Whether or not, assuming an agreement was reached between Plaintiff and Hagen, it was also a term of the agreement that Plaintiff must expand its facilities.
- 16. Whether or not, assuming there was an agreement which included a term requiring Plaintiff to either expand its facilities or open a new facility, the timing, location, size, and expense related to such expansion and facility was discussed and agreed to by Hagen and Plaintiff.
- 17. Whether or not Hagen advised Sam Sarkissian that expansion into the Northwest region of the United States would be costly and possibly detrimental to Plaintiff's business.

- 18. Whether or not, assuming an agreement was reached between Plaintiff and Hagen, it was also a term of the agreement that Plaintiff disclose its trade secrets to Hagen.
- 19. Whether or not, assuming there is an agreement between Hagen and Plaintiff, and assuming that Plaintiff performed its obligations under the agreement, the letter attached to Plaintiff's Complaint establishes that Hagen terminated the agreement.
- 20. Whether or not, assuming there is an agreement between Hagen and Plaintiff, assuming that Plaintiff performed its obligations under the agreement, and assuming that the letter attached to Plaintiff's Complaint establishes that Hagen terminated the agreement, the agreement was terminable-at-will.
- 21. Whether or not, in February, 2007 Hagen launched its Hagen Direct Program, which provided a unified pricing system for distributors and retailers in the United States.
- 22. Whether or not, retailers which purchased Hagen products from Plaintiff, could purchase those same products from other distributors during the time retailers purchased from Plaintiff.
- 23. Whether or not some distributors continued to buy Hagen products after the launch of Hagen Direct.
- 24. Whether or not, assuming there is an agreement between Hagen and Plaintiff, and assuming that Plaintiff performed its obligations under the agreement, Hagen breached the agreement by offering all retailers and distributors, including Plaintiff, the same pricing schedule to purchase Hagen products after the launch of the Hagen Direct program.

- 25. Whether or not the pricing terms for Plaintiff remained the same after Hagen implemented the Hagen Direct program.
- 26. Whether or not Plaintiff contemplated continuing to distribute Hagen products after Hagen introduced the Hagen Direct program.
- 27. Whether or not, assuming there is an agreement between Hagen and Plaintiff and that Plaintiff performed its obligations under the agreement, Hagen breached the agreement by refusing to alter its refund policy as demanded by Plaintiff.
- 28. Whether or not, assuming there is an agreement between Hagen and Plaintiff, assuming that Plaintiff performed its obligations under the agreement, and assuming that Hagen breached the agreement, Plaintiff mitigated its damages by selling the "Disputed Inventory."
- 29. Whether or not Plaintiff paid all outstanding invoices that it owed to Hagen.
- 30. Whether or not Plaintiff still has an outstanding invoice amount owed to Hagen for approximately \$20,000.
- 31. Whether or not Hagen's return policy provided that Hagen would refund a distributor for defective products and/or for wrapped/unopened products within 90 days from date of purchase.
- 32. Whether or not Hagen's return policy provided that Hagen would not refund a distributor for discontinued products or shop-worn products (unwrapped products).
- 33. Whether or not after the launch of the Hagen Direct program, Hagen offered to modify its return policy so that it was

more favorable to Plaintiff by allowing Plaintiff to return all sealed, wrapped products that had been in Plaintiff's warehouse for up to nine months from date of purchase.

- 34. Whether or not Plaintiff demanded that Hagen accept a return of all unsold Hagen products, even though some of the products did not qualify for return because those products had been opened, discontinued and/or in Plaintiff's possession for more than 9 months (and up to two years in some cases) (collectively, the "Old Inventory").
- 35. Whether or not Plaintiff demanded that Hagen accept the Old Inventory and reimburse it for its net cost of \$250,000.
- 36. Whether or not Hagen offered Plaintiff \$140,000 to compensate it for the Old Inventory pursuant to the modification to its return policy that it offered to Plaintiff.
- 37. Whether or not Plaintiff rejected Hagen's offer to accept \$140,000 for the Old Inventory.
- 38. Whether or not the Old Inventory is no longer eligible to be accepted under Hagen's return policy, even as offered to be modified.
- 39. Whether or not Plaintiff's Old Inventory is presently valued at \$200,000.
- 40. Whether or not in or about 1993, Plaintiff and Defendant orally agreed that Plaintiff would distribute Plaintiff's pet supply products.
- 41. Whether or not Plaintiff's president, Sam Sarkissian, ever discussed with Hagen the conditions for termination of the

- 42. Whether or not during initial discussions, plaintiff was "guaranteed" by Dieter Hagen that defendant Hagen would never distribute its products directly to retailers in the United States.
- 43. Whether or not plaintiff ever told its salespeople that they were required to promote Hagen's products before promoting products from other manufacturers.
- 44. Whether or not plaintiff could not force its salespeople to promote Hagen products ahead of competing product lines.
- 45. Whether or not Plaintiff's promotion of Hagen products was any different from Plaintiff's promotion of other competing product lines.
- 46. Whether or not a term of the "Distribution Agreement" consisted of a promise by Hagen to refrain from soliciting any of Plaintiff's customers.
- 47. Whether or not after the introduction of the Hagen Direct Program, Plaintiff contemplated continuing to distribute Hagen products.
- 48. Whether or not the alleged "termination" letter attached to Plaintiff's Complaint establishes that Hagen sought to terminate Plaintiff as a distributor.
- 49. Whether or not the terms of the alleged "termination" letter established only a unified pricing and credit terms schedule.
- 50. Whether or not the pricing terms for Plaintiff remained the same after Hagen implemented the Hagen Direct Program.

- 52. Whether or not the February 2007 "Termination letter" constituted a termination of the "Distribution Agreement."
- 53. Whether or not since 1993, plaintiff has been a distributor of HAGEN products throughout the western United States pursuant to a distribution agreement with defendant HAGEN.
- 54. Whether or not at the outset of the distribution relationship between defendant HAGEN and plaintiff, in discussions between plaintiff's president, Sam Sarkissian and Dieter Hagen, plaintiff was specifically assured that HAGEN would not offer its products for sale directly to retailers in plaintiff's distribution area, or anywhere in the United States, but would continue to distribute its products only through plaintiff S&S and other distributors at an established distributor pricing schedule. (Hagen comment: compound and contrary to allegations made in complaint.
- 55. Whether or not, while there was no formal written agreement between the parties, the terms of the Distribution Agreement were established verbally, and memorialized over the 15 years of the parties' performance under the Distribution Agreement by Hagen's delivery of products to plaintiff's Fairfield, California and Seattle Washington distribution facilities, and

Hagen's submission of written invoices for payment, and by plaintiff's payment for the products.

- 56. Whether or not, pursuant to the distribution agreement, plaintiff fully and faithfully performed its obligations under the Distribution Agreement and incurred substantial expenses promoting Hagen's products and providing distribution facilities in California and Washington over a total of more than 15 years to develop a valuable distributorship for the successful marketing and sale of Hagen's products.
- 57. Whether or not, until implementation of the Hagen Direct Program, Hagen had never offered its products directly to plaintiff's retail customers, but had distributed its products through plaintiff pursuant to the Distribution Agreement.
- 58. Whether or not, in or about February 2007, without cause and with no prior notice to plaintiff, and in violation of its Distribution Agreement with plaintiff, defendant Hagen provided written notice to plaintiff of its unilateral decision to discontinue its distribution relationship with plaintiff (the "Termination Notice"), notwithstanding that plaintiff had and continued to fully and faithfully perform its obligations under the Distribution Agreement
- 59. Whether or not the Termination Notice introduced a new distribution program being implemented by Hagen, entitled the "Hagen Direct" program.
- 60. Whether or not, under the "Hagen Direct" program, Hagen would be offering the same products previously sold to plaintiff

under the Distribution Agreement directly to plaintiff's independent retailer customers at substantially reduced prices (i.e., as much as 40% discounted prices).

- 61. Whether or not the Hagen Direct Program offered the same price to dealers and distributors and eliminated distributor pricing.
- 62. Whether or not immediately prior to delivery of the Termination Notice, Hagen had shipped, and plaintiff had purchased in excess of \$200,000 of products at Hagen's established pricing schedule in accordance with its customary and established distribution relationship with Hagen ("the Disputed Inventory").
- 63. Whether or not Hagen refused, and has continued to refuse to accept the return of the Disputed Inventory, or to refund the purchase price paid by plaintiff for the Disputed Inventory.
- 64. Whether or not, while plaintiff's president, Sam Sarkissian never specifically discussed termination of the Distribution Agreement with Dieter Hagen or other representatives of defendant Hagen, the understanding reached at the outset of the distribution relationship was that the relationship would continue as long as plaintiff continued to use its best efforts to promote and solicit the sale of Hagen's products, and in fact distributed Hagen products throughout S&S Supplies' market area.
- 65. Whether or not by implementing the Hagen Direct Program and offering the full line of Hagen products directly to plaintiff's retailers at a "unified pricing schedule", Hagen unilaterally eliminated all of the economic benefits of the

Distribution Agreement for plaintiff. Under the Hagen Direct Program, Hagen marked its products for sale directly to plaintiff's retailers under a "unified pricing schedule" that it would also purportedly offer to plaintiff, thus eliminating plaintiff's ability to realize any profit from the continued distribution and sale of Hagen products to plaintiff's retail customers.

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- C. Hagen's Disputed Factual Issues Relevant To Plaintiff's

  Declaratory Relief Claim
- 1. Whether or not Plaintiff's request for relief, to determine whether any agreement exists and if Hagen breached it, is appropriate.

#### V. NON-DISCOVERY MOTIONS TO THE COURT AND RESOLUTION

A single motion for summary judgment was tendered by the defendant.

As to the contract claims, defendant conceded that the question of whether any contract existed and was enforceable was a triable question. Defendant argued that, assuming that there was an enforceable contract, there was nonetheless no material question regarding breach. The court rejected this argument in part. The court held that there was a triable question as to whether the contract explicitly prohibited defendant from selling directly to retailers. Order of Feb. 4, 2010 at 14. There was also a triable question as to whether the contract contained implicit terms prohibiting termination except upon reasonable notice or for good cause. Id. at 23. The court granted partial summary judgment, however, rejecting plaintiff's

contention that even upon reasonable notice, the contract could be terminated only for cause. <u>Id.</u> Finally, a triable question existed as to whether defendant had good cause or defendant had provided reasonable notice. <u>Id.</u> at 25-26. Pursuant to these findings, the court held that at most, plaintiff could seek damages for the failure to provide reasonable notice of the termination of the contract. <u>Id.</u> at 27.

The court granted defendant's motion as to the remaining claims. The trade secrets claims failed because no evidence indicated that defendant used confidential information. Id. at 29. The intentional interference claims failed because plaintiff provided no evidence of contracts with third parties or of unlawful conduct by defendant. Id. at 31-33. The unfair competition claim failed because plaintiff had not identified unfair, unlawful, or fraudulent conduct. Id. at 31. Plaintiff's claim for injunctive relief failed because plaintiff was not entitled to such relief under any of the surviving claims. Id. at 34.

Thus, the surviving claims are for breach of contract, breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, unjust enrichment, and declaratory judgment.

#### VI. DISPUTED EVIDENTIARY ISSUES

Neither party suggests that there will be disputed evidentiary issues.

#### VII. SPECIAL FACTUAL INFORMATION

None.

#### VIII. RELIEF SOUGHT

Plaintiff seeks compensatory damages, disgorgement of profits, costs, and a declaratory judgment that defendant has breached the agreement.

Defendant seeks judgment in its favor.

Both parties seek costs.

#### IX. POINTS OF LAW

- (a) The elements, standards, and burdens of proof of a claim for breach of contract under California law.
- (b) The elements, standards, and burdens of proof of a claim for breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing under California law.
- (c) The elements, standards, and burdens of proof of a claim for declaratory relief under California law.
- (d) The elements, standards, and burdens of proof of a claim for unjust enrichment under California law.
- (e) The elements, standards, and burdens of proof for the defense of the statute of frauds under California law.
- (f) The elements, standards, and burdens of proof for the defense of waiver of breach under California law.
- (g) The elements, standards, and burdens of proof for the defense of impossibility of performance under California law.
- (h) The elements, standards, and burdens of proof for the defense of mistake under California law.
- (i) The elements, standards, and burdens of proof for the defense of unclean hands under California law.

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- (j) The elements, standards, and burdens of proof for the defense of laches under California law.
- (k) The elements, standards, and burdens of proof for the defense of failure to mitigate damages under California law.
- (1) As to the claim for unjust enrichment, the elements, standards, and burdens of proof for the defense of adequate remedy at law.

ANY CAUSES OF ACTION OR AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES NOT EXPLICITLY
ASSERTED IN THE PRETRIAL ORDER UNDER POINTS OF LAW AT THE TIME
IT BECOMES FINAL ARE DISMISSED, AND DEEMED WAIVED.

### X. ABANDONED ISSUES

None.

#### XI. WITNESSES

Plaintiff anticipates calling the following witnesses:

See attachment "A".

Defendant anticipates calling the following witnesses: See attachment "B".

Each party may call a witness designated by the other.

- A. No other witnesses will be permitted to testify unless:
- (1) The party offering the witness demonstrates that the witness is for the purpose of rebutting evidence which could not be reasonably anticipated at the Pretrial Conference, or
- (2) The witness was discovered after the Pretrial Conference and the proffering party makes the showing required in "B" below.

- (1) The witnesses could not reasonably have been discovered prior to Pretrial;
- (2) The court and opposing counsel were promptly notified upon discovery of the witnesses;
- (3) If time permitted, counsel proffered the witnesses for deposition;
- (4) If time did not permit, a reasonable summary of the witnesses' testimony was provided opposing counsel.

#### XII. EXHIBITS, SCHEDULES AND SUMMARIES

Plaintiff contemplates the following by way of exhibits: See attachment "C".

Defendant contemplates the following by way of exhibits: See attachment "D".

- A. No other exhibits will be permitted to be introduced unless:
- (1) The party proffering the exhibit demonstrates that the exhibit is for the purpose of rebutting evidence which could not be reasonably anticipated at the Pretrial Conference, or

- (2) The exhibit was discovered after the Pretrial Conference and the proffering party makes the showing required in paragraph "B," below.
- B. Upon the post-Pretrial discovery of exhibits, the attorneys shall promptly inform the court and opposing counsel of the existence of such exhibits so that the court may consider at trial their admissibility. The exhibits will not be received unless the proffering party demonstrates:
- (1) The exhibits could not reasonably have been discovered prior to Pretrial;
- (2) The court and counsel were promptly informed of their existence:
- (3) Counsel forwarded a copy of the exhibit(s) (if physically possible) to opposing counsel. If the exhibit(s) may not be copied, the proffering counsel must show that he has made the exhibit(s) reasonably available for inspection by opposing counsel.

As to each exhibit, each party is ordered to exchange copies of the exhibit not later than fifteen (15) days from the date of this Pretrial Order. Each party is then granted ten (10) days to file with the court and serve on opposing counsel any objections to said exhibits. In making said objections, the party is to set forth the grounds for the objection. As to each exhibit which is not objected to, it shall be marked and received into evidence and will require no further foundation.

Each exhibit which is objected to will be marked for identification only.

In addition to electronically filing said objections, if any, the objections must be submitted by email, as an attachment in Word or WordPerfect format, to: <a href="mailto:arivas@caed.uscourts.gov">arivas@caed.uscourts.gov</a>.

The attorney for each party is directed to appear before and present an original and one (1) copy of said exhibit to Ana Rivas, Deputy Courtroom Clerk, not later than 10:30 a.m. on the date set for trial. All exhibits shall be submitted to the court in binders. Plaintiff's exhibits shall be listed numerically. Defendant's exhibits shall be listed alphabetically. The parties shall use the standard exhibit stickers provided by the court: pink for plaintiff and blue for defendant.

#### XIII. DISCOVERY DOCUMENTS

Plaintiff presently anticipates that the following discovery documents may be offered at trial:

- 1. Interrogatory Responses: Defendant Hagen's Responses to Interrogatories 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10 and 17.
  - 2. Portions of Deposition Transcripts:
- a. Testimony from the deposition transcript from the Dieter Hagen deposition taken on August 18, 2009 contained on pages 16, 25-28, 31-32, 34, 48-50, 53-57, 61, 64-67, 85 and 123-124.

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Testimony from the deposition transcript from the b. Trevor Hagen deposition taken on August 18, 2009 contained on pages 13, 17, 31, 37-39, 43-46, 66-67, 70-79, 82-84, 99 and 105.

Defendants: none, except for impeachment purposes.

#### FURTHER DISCOVERY OR MOTIONS

None.

#### XV.

None.

#### AMENDMENTS/DISMISSALS XVI.

None.

#### FURTHER TRIAL PREPARATION

- Counsel are directed to Local Rule 285 regarding the contents of and the time for filing trial briefs.
- в. Counsel are informed that the court has prepared a set of standard jury instructions. In general, they cover all aspects of the trial except those relating to the specific claims of the complaint. Accordingly, counsel need not prepare instructions concerning matters within the scope of the prepared instructions. A copy of the prepared instructions is given to the parties at the Pretrial Conference.
- For all cases tried to the court, counsel are ordered В. to file and serve Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law not later than ten (10) days prior to the first date of trial.
- Counsel are further directed that their specific jury instructions shall be filed fourteen (14) calendar days prior to

the date of trial. As to any instructions counsel desires to offer, they shall be prepared in accordance with Local Rule 163(b)(1) which provides:

"Two copies of the instructions shall be submitted.

One copy shall be electronically filed as a .pdf
document and shall contain each instruction on a
separate page, numbered and identified as to the party
presenting it. Each instruction shall cite the
decision, statute, ordinance, regulation or other
authority supporting the proposition stated in the
instruction."

The second copy ("jury copy") shall be submitted by e-mail to <a href="mailto:lkkorders@caed.uscourts.gov">lkkorders@caed.uscourts.gov</a>.

In addition, counsel shall provide copies of proposed forms of verdict, including special verdict forms, at the time the proposed jury instructions are filed with the court.

- D. It is the duty of counsel to ensure that any deposition which is to be used at trial has been filed with the Clerk of the Court. Counsel are cautioned that a failure to discharge this duty may result in the court precluding use of the deposition or imposition of such other sanctions as the court deems appropriate.
- E. The parties are ordered to file with the court and exchange between themselves not later than one (1) week before the trial a statement designating portions of depositions

intended to be offered or read into evidence (except for portions to be used only for impeachment or rebuttal).

- F. The parties are ordered to file with the court and exchange between themselves not later than one (1) week before trial the portions of answers to interrogatories which the respective parties intend to offer or read into evidence at the trial (except portions to be used only for impeachment or rebuttal).
- G. The court has extensive audiovisual equipment available. Any counsel contemplating its use shall contact the court's Telecommunications Manager, Andre Carrier, at (916) 930-4223, at least two weeks in advance of trial to receive the appropriate training.

#### XVIII. SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

A Settlement Conference is **SET** before the Honorable Gregory G. Hollows, United States Magistrate Judge, on May 25, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. Counsel are directed to submit settlement conference statements to the settlement judge not later than seven (7) days prior to the conference. At counsel's option, such statements may be submitted in confidence pursuant to Local Rule 270(d).

Each party is directed to have a principal capable of disposition at the Settlement Conference or to be fully authorized to settle the matter on any terms and at the Settlement Conference.

#### XIX. AGREED STATEMENTS

None.

#### XX. SEPARATE TRIAL OF ISSUES

The matter of punitive damages will be severed and will be heard immediately following the jury's determination as to actual damages.

### XXI. <u>IMPARTIAL EXPERTS/LIMITATION OF EXPERTS</u>

None.

#### XXII. ATTORNEYS' FEES

Neither party is seeking attorneys' fees.

#### XXIII. MISCELLANEOUS

None.

#### XXIV. ESTIMATE OF TRIAL TIME/TRIAL DATE

Trial by the court is continued to July 7, 2010, at 10:30 a.m., in Courtroom No. 4. The parties represent in good faith that the trial will take approximately three (3) days.

Each party is to file with the court a proposed statement of fact and conclusions of law no later than seven (7) days prior to trial.

Counsel are to call Ana Rivas, Courtroom Deputy, at (916) 930-4133, one week prior to trial to ascertain status of trial date.

#### XXV. OBJECTIONS TO PRETRIAL ORDER

Each party is granted fifteen (15) days from the effective date of this Pretrial Order [Tentative] to object to or augment same. Each party is also granted five (5) days thereafter to respond to the other party's objections. If no objections or

additions are made, the Tentative Pretrial Order will become final without further order of the court.

The parties are reminded that pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(e), this order shall control the subsequent course of this action and shall be modified only to prevent manifest injustice.

#### XXVI. OTHER

All time limits and dates that refer to the Pretrial Order refer to the date this Pretrial Order [Tentative] is filed and not the date an amended order, if any, is filed.

JUDGE

STATES DISTRICT

SENIOR

UNITED

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: April 16, 2010.

1	Ammodus 11 Cuddital (ODI 14271)		
2			
3	Fairfield, CA 94534 Telephone: (707) 435-1244		
4	Facsimile: (707) 435-1245 Email: cwslaw@comcast.net		
5	Attorney for Plaintiff		
6	BOLAND, INC., dba S&S SUPPLIES		
7	•		
8	UNITED STATES D	ISTRICT COURT	
9	EASTERN DISTRICT	OF CALIFORNIA	
10			
11	BOLAND, INC., a California corporation dba	Case No. 2:08-CV-02201-LKK-JFM	
12	S&S SUPPLIES,	(E-filing)	
13	Plaintiff,	PLAINTIFF's WITNESS LIST (Attachment "A" to Plaintiff Boland, Inc.'s	
14	vs.	Separate PreTrial Statement)	
15	ROLF C. HAGEN (USA) CORP., and DOES 1 ) through 50, inclusive,	Date: February 16, 2010 Time: 1:30 p.m.	
16	<b>1</b>	Courtroom: 4 [The Hon. Lawrence K. Kariton]	
17	Defendants.	•	
18			
19	Plaintiff BOLAND INC., a California corporation, dba S&S SUPPLIES and ROLF C.		
20	HAGEN (USA) CORP. respectfully submits this Witness List as Attachment "A" to Plaintiff's		
21	Separate PreTrial Statement in advance of the Final Pretrial Conference scheduled for February 16,		
22	2010 in the above captioned matter pursuant to the Court's Status (Pretrial Scheduling) Conference		
23	Order entered in the matter on December 18, 2008.		
24			
25	Plaintiff may call the following prospective	MIGIGOSCS ST TIST.	
26	Sam Sarkissian     S&S Supplies		
27	2750 Maxwell Way Fairfield, CA 94534		
28	Acres de la companya		

ATTACHMENT "A"

1	l <sup>2.</sup>	Greg Sarkissian
		S&S Supplies
2		2750 Maxwell Way
3		Fairfield, CA 94534
4	3.	Linda Kusaka
		S&S Supplies
5		2750 Maxwell Way
6		Fairfield, CA 94534
7	4.	Mike Copeland
		S&S Supplies
8		2750 Maxwell Way
9		Fairfield, CA 94534
	5.	Razmik Arakel
10		S&S Supplies
		2750 Maxwell Way
11		Fairfield, CA 94534
12		Tunning Off 74204
	6.	Jim Pringle
13		S&S Supplies
14		2750 Maxwell Way
		Fairfield, CA 94534
15	7.	William C. Edic, C.P.A.
16		P.O. Box 325
		Homewood, California 96141
17		(Plaintiff's Expert Witness)
18		
	8.	Dieter Hagen
19		ROLF C. HAGEN (USA) CORP.
20		305 Forbes Blvd.
	·	Mansfield, MA 02048
21	9.	Trevor Hagen
22	<b> </b>	ROLF C. HAGEN (USA) CORP.
	<u> </u>	305 Forbes Blvd.
23		Mansfield, MA 02048
24	10	D-ISO Harris
	10.	Rolf C. Hagen Sr.
25		ROLF C. HAGEN (USA) CORP.
26		305 Forbes Blvd. Mansfield, MA 02048
		INTERNATION, INT. VZV40
27		

```
11. Rolf C. Hagen Jr.
 1
                ROLF C. HAGEN (USA) CORP.
 2
                305 Forbes Blvd.
                Mansfield, MA 02048
 3
            12. Robert ("Bob") DeRusha
 4
                ROLF C. HAGEN (USA) CORP.
                305 Forbes Blvd.
 5
                Mansfield, MA 02048
 6
            13. Robert Baskinger
 7
                ROLF C. HAGEN (USA) CORP.
                305 Forbes Blvd.
 8
                Mansfield, MA 02048
 9
            14. Jeff Sutherland
10
                Central Garden & Pet
                1340 Treat Boulevard
11
                Suite 600
                Walnut Creek, CA 94597
12
13
            15. Glen W. Novotny
                Telegraph Hill Partners
14
                360 Post Street
                Suite 601
15
                San Francisco, CA 94108
16
                (Defendant's Expert Witness)
17
            16. Ronald G. Pomares
                Pomares Gardner an Accounting Corporation
18
                555 Capitol Mall
19
                Suite 400
                Sacramento, CA 95814
20
                (Defendant's Expert Witness)
21
            17. Plaintiff reserves the right to call any witness identified by Defendant in its Separate
22
                PreTrial Statement or called to testify at trial.
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1 2	18. Plaintiff reserves the right to call any witness whose identity is discovered by plaintiff after the date of this Pretrial Statement.				
3			Respectfully submitted,		
4	Dated: February 1, 2010		LAW OFFICES OF		
5		CHRI	STOPHER W. SWEENEY		
6					
7 8		Ву:	/s/ Christopher W. Sweeney Christopher W. Sweeney Attorney for Plaintiff BOLAND, INC., dba S&S SUPPLIES		
9			dba S&S SUPPLIES		
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Ca	e 2:08-cv-02201-LKK-JFM	Document 52	Filed 02/12/2010	Page 2 of 2
1 2	3. Linda Kusaka S&S Supplies 2750 Maxwel Fairfield, CA	i I Way		
3 4 5	4. Dieter Hagen	GEN (USA) CORP. Ivd.		
6	5. Trevor Hagen ROLF C. HA	GEN (USA) CORP.		
7 8	305 Forbes B Mansfield, M 6. Ronald G. Po	A 02048		
9 10	555 Capitol N Sacramento, (	1all, Suite 400 CA 95814		
11 12	7. Lynne Carline ROLF C. HA 305 Forbes B Mansfield, M	GEN (USA) CORP. Ivd.		
13 14	8. Glen W. Nov. Telegraph Hil 360 Post Stre	otny il Partners		
15	Suite 601 San Francisco	o, CA 94108		
16 17	Hagen reserves the right to call any witness identified by Plaintiff in its Separate Pre- Trial Statement or called to testify at trial.			
18	]	-	witness whose identity	is discovered by Hagen
19	after the date of this Pre-Tria	l Statement.		
20	DATED: February 12, 2010		SEYFARTH SHA	
21 22			/s/ Andrea K. An By Lawrence E	Butler
23			Andrea K. A Attorneys for Defe	Anapolsky ndant
24			ROLF Č, HAGEN	(USA) CORP.
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26				
27 28				
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	HAGEN'S WITNESS LIST/CASE NO.	2:08-CV-02201-LKK-JI	PM .	

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1 2 3 4	Christopher W. Sweeney (SBN 143217) LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTOPHER W. SWEENEY 1500 Oliver Road, Suite K, PMB 321 Fairfield, CA 94534 Telephone: (707) 435-1244 Facsimile: (707) 435-1245 Email: ewslaw@comeast.net			
5	Attorney for Plaintiff BOLAND, INC., dba S&S SUPPLIES			
6 7				
8	IINITED STATES	DISTRICT COURT		
9		T OF CALIFORNIA		
10	LASTEM DISTRIC	OF CREATORIUM		
11	BOLAND, INC., a California corporation dba )	Case No. 2:08-CV-02201-LKK-JFM		
12	S&S SUPPLIES,	(E-filing)		
13	Plaintiff,	PLAINTIFF's EXHIBIT LIST (Attachment "B" to Plaintiff Boland, Inc.'s		
14	vs.	Separate PreTrial Statement)		
15	ROLF C. HAGEN (USA) CORP., and DOES 1 ) through 50, inclusive,	Date: February 16, 2010 Time: 1:30 p.m.		
16	l j	Courtroom: 4 [The Hon. Lawrence K. Kariton]		
17	Defendants.			
18	PLACEROI AND DIO O HE	t to construct the Aport of		
19	Plaintiff BOLAND INC., a California corporation, dba S&S SUPPLIES and ROLF C.			
20	HAGEN (USA) CORP. respectfully submits this Exhibit List as Attachment "B" to Plaintiff's			
21	Separate PreTrial Statement in advance of the Final Pretrial Conference scheduled for February 16,			
22	2010 in the above captioned matter pursuant to the Court's Status (Pretrial Scheduling) Conference			
23	Order entered in the matter on December 18, 2008.			
24	Plaintiff presently expects to offer the following documents and exhibits at trial:			
25	Emails dated March 22, 2007 through March 27, 2007 between and among Sam			
26				
27	Sarkissian, Dieter Hagen, Trevor Hagen and Linda Kusaka (Plaintiff's Bates Stamp Nos. P-0011			
28	through P-0089).			

1	36. Rol	f C. Hagen (USA) Corp. !	Materials from Hagen Preferred Dealer Program Binder		
2	(Defendant's Bates Stamp Nos. RH 0000042 through 0000050).				
3	37. Rolf C. Hagen (USA) Corp. Materials from the "Why Partner With Hagen" Binder				
4 5	(Defendant's Bates Stamp Nos. RH 0000051 through 0000069).				
6	38. Sun	38. Summary Report of Hagen Products (Plaintiff's Bate Stamp Nos. 0090-001691).			
7	39. Def	39. Defendant Rolf C. Hagen (USA) Corp. Expert Witness Designation, dated July 28,			
8	2009, with attached	d Expert Witness Reports	s of Defendant's experts Glen W. Novotny and Ronald		
9	G. Pomares (Exper	t Witness Designation ar	nd attached reports total 23 pages).		
10	40. Plai	ntiff reserves the right to	offer any documents or exhibits offered by Defendant in		
11 12	ite Composte DucTriel Statement on a triel in the flow do noncorte on whiteir with domain her				
13	defendant's expert witnesses.				
14	41. Plaintiff reserves the right to offer any documents or exhibits the existence of which				
15	are discovered by plaintiff after the date of this Pretrial Statement including, without limitation,				
16					
17	documents produced by defendant or any non-party pursuant to a trial subpoena.				
18			Respectfully submitted,		
19	Dated: February 1,	2010	LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTOPHER W. SWEENEY		
20					
21			By: /s/ Christopher W. Sweenev		
22 23		·	Christopher W. Sweeney Attorney for Plaintiff BOLAND, INC., dba S&S SUPPLIES		
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HAGEN'S EXHIBIT LIST/CASE No. 2:08-CV-02201-LKK-JFM

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Ca	se 2:08-cv-02201-LKK-JFM	Document 49	Filed 02/08/2010	Page 3 of 3	
1	Hagen reserves the rig	ht to offer any docu	ments or exhibits the e	xistence of which are	
2	discovered by Hagen after the date of this Pretrial Statement including, without limitation,				
3	documents produced by Plaintiff or any non-party pursuant to a trial subpoena.				
4	DATED: February 8, 2010		SEYFARTH SHAV	V LLP	
5					
6			/s/ Andrea K. An	<u> </u>	
7			Lawrence E Andrea K. A	napolsky	
8			Attorneys for Defen ROLF C. HAGEN (	USA) CORP.	
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