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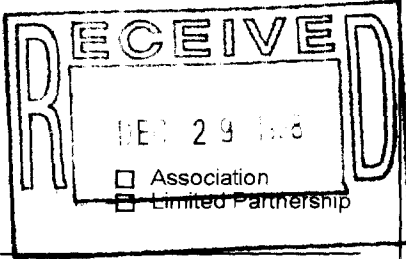
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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Falston Purina Company  
Checkerboard Square  
St. Louis, Missouri 63164

- Individual(s)
- General Partnership
- Corporation-State
- Other



Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?  Yes  No

3. Nature of conveyance:

- Assignment
- Security Agreement
- Other
- Merger
- Change of Name

Execution Date March 31, 1994

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: Beech-Nut Nutrition Corporation

Internal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: P.O. Box 618

City: St. Louis State: Missouri ZIP: 63188

- Individual(s) citizenship
- Association
- General Partnership
- Limited Partnership
- Corporation-State Nevada
- Other

If assignee is not domiciled in the United States, a domestic representative designation is attached:  Yes  No

(Designations must be a separate document from assignment)

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?  Yes  No

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

A. Trademark Application No.(s)

B. Trademark Registration No.(s)  
1,823,696

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Name: Andrew T. Hoyne

Internal Address: Armstrong, Teasdale, Schlafly & Davis

Street Address: One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600

City: St. Louis State: Missouri ZIP: 63102

6. Total number of applications and registrations involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41)..... \$ \$40.00

- Enclosed
- Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:

(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

9. Statement and signature.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Andrew T. Hoyne  
Name of Person Signing

*Andrew T. Hoyne*  
Signature

December 23, 1998  
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 2

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to  
Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments  
Washington, D.C. 20231

TRADEMARK  
REEL: 1835 FRAME: 0619

DEC 29 1998 10:00 AM 100939505

TRADEMARK ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Ralston Purina Company, a Missouri corporation with its principal office located at Checkerboard Square, St. Louis, Missouri 63164, registered the trademark STAGES, Registration No. 1,823,696; and

WHEREAS, Beech-Nut Nutrition Corporation, a Nevada corporation, with its principal office located at P. O. Box 618, St. Louis, Missouri 63188-0618, is desirous of acquiring the rights represented by such registration.

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, Ralston Purina Company does hereby assign unto said Beech-Nut Nutrition Corporation all rights, title and interest, if any, it may have in and to the trademark STAGES, Registration No. 1.823.696 together with the goodwill of its business symbolized by such trademark.

Assigned nunc pro tunc as of March 31, 1994.

RALSTON PURINA COMPANY

By: 

Name:

A. E. Forsman

Title:

Assistant Secretary