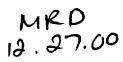
FORM PTO-1618A Expires 06/30/99 OMB 0651-0027

01-16-2001

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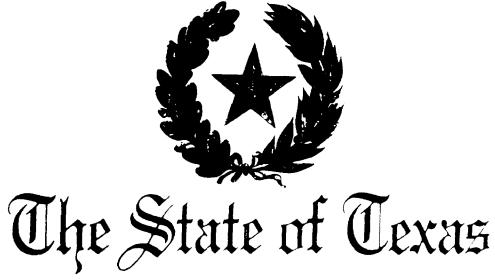


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### **RECORDATION FORM COVER SHEET**

TRADEN	
	Please record the attached original document(s) or copy(ies).
Submission Type	Conveyance Type
X New	Assignment License
Resubmission (Non-Recordation) Document ID #	Security Agreement Nunc Pro Tunc Assignment  Effective Date
Correction of PTO Error	Merger Month Day Year
Reel # Frame #	Change of Name
Corrective Document Reel # Frame #	Other
Conveying Party	Mark if additional names of conveying parties attached  Execution Date  Month Day Year
Name Doane Transition, L.L.C.	11 10 98
Formerly	
Individual General Partnership X	Limited Partnership Corporation Association
Other	
X Citizenship/State of Incorporation/Organization	on Texas
Receiving Party	Mark if additional names of receiving parties attached
Name Doane Pet Care Company	
DBA/AKA/TA	
Composed of	
Address(line 1) 210 Westwood Place South	
Address (line 2)	07027
Address(line 3) Brentwood	TN 37027 Zip Code
Individual General Partnership	Limited Partnership  If document to be recorded is an assignment and the receiving party is not domiciled in the United States, an
Corporation Association	appointment of a domestic representative should be attached. (Designation must be a separate
X Other Delaware no permit entity	(Designation must be a Separation document from Assignment.)
X Citizenship/State of Incorporation/Organizat	tion Delaware
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FOR 2001 MTHAI1 00000211 1585003 40.00 OP 481	e approximately 30 minutes per Cover Sheet to be recorded, including time for reviewing the document a supproximately 30 minutes per Cover Sheet to be recorded, including time for reviewing the document as the burden estimate to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Chief Information D.C. 20503. See OMB
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FORM PTO- Expires 06/30/99 OMB 0651-0027	-1618B Page 2	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office TRADEMARK	
	Representative Name and Address Enter for the first Rec	eiving Party only.	
Name			
Address (line 1)			
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Address (line 4)			
Correspondent Name and Address Area Code and Telephone Number 713-758-2732			
Name	Peter E. Mims		
Address (line 1)	Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.		
Address (line 2)	2300 First City Tower		
Address (line 3)	1001 Fannin Street		
Address (line 4)	Houston, Texas 77002		
Pages	Enter the total number of pages of the attached conveyance docuincluding any attachments.	ment # 6	
Trademark Application Number(s) or Registration Number(s)  Mark if additional numbers attached  Enter either the Trademark Application Number or the Registration Number (DO NOT ENTER BOTH numbers for the same property).  Trademark Application Number(s)  Registration Number(s)  Trademark Application Number(s)  Registration Number(s)  Number of Properties  Enter the total number of properties involved.  Fee Amount  Fee Amount for Properties Listed (37 CFR 3.41): \$40.00  Method of Payment:  Enclosed  Deposit Account    Deposit Account (Enter for payment by deposit account or if additional fees can be charged to the account.)  Deposit Account Number:  Authorization to charge additional fees: Yes X No			
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. Charges to deposit account are authorized, as indicated herein.  Peter E. Mims  Signature  Date Signed			
Nam	me of Person Signing Signature		



# SECRETARY OF STATE CERTIFICATE OF MERGER

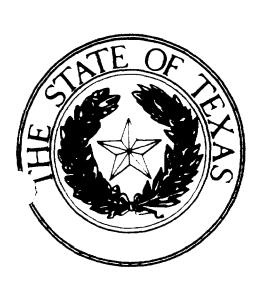
The undersigned, as Secretary of State of Texas, hereby certifies that the attached Articles of Merger of

DOANE TRANSITION, L.L.C a Texas limited liability company with DOANE PET CARE COMPANY a Delaware no permit entity

have been received in this office and are found to conform to law. ACCORDINGLY, the undersigned, as Secretary of State, and by virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary by law, hereby issues this Certificate of Merger

Filed NOVEMBER 12, 1998

Effective NOVEMBER 12, 1998 11:07A.M.



Alberto R. Gonzales Secretary of State

FILED
In the Office of the
Secretary of State of Texas

NOV 1 2 1998

# ARTICLES OF MERGER OF DOANE TRANSITION, L.L.C. WITH AND INTO DOANE PET CARE COMPANY

Corporations Section

Pet Care XX

Pursuant to Article 10.05 of the Texas Limited Liability Company Act, the undersigned corporation hereby adopts the following Articles of Merger to effect the merger (the "Merger") of Doane Transition, L.L.C., a Texas limited liability company ("Transition"), with and into Doane Products Company, a Delaware corporation formerly known as Doane Products Company ("Doane") and owner of all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of Transition.

- 1. The name of the parent corporation is Doane Pet Care Company, a Delaware corporation, and the name of the subsidiary entity is Doane Transition, L.L.C. a Texas limited liability company.
- 2. All of the issued and outstanding membership interests of Transition are owned by Doane. The membership interests are not divided into units or any other class or series.
- 3. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a copy of resolutions adopted by Doane, the parent entity, on November 10, 1998 approving the merger of Transition into Doane.
- The address of the registered office of Doane in the State of Delaware is Corporation Trust Center, 1209 Orange Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19801 in New Castle County, Delaware. The name of its registered agent as such address is The Corporation Trust Company.
- 5. The Merger shall be effective at 11:07 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on November 12, 1998.
- 6. The surviving entity agrees to be responsible for the payment of all such fees and franchise taxes as may be due or required of the merging entities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed these Articles of Merger on this 10th day of November, 1998.

DOANE PET CARE COMPANY

Thomas R. Heidentha

Secretary

C:WERGERSWRT-LLCA

#### EXHIBIT A

# DOANE PET CARE COMPANY SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESOLUTIONS OF MERGER

### **NOVEMBER 10, 1998**

The undersigned, the duly elected Secretary of Doane Pet Care Company, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), hereby certifies that the following resolutions were approved by the Company through its Board of Directors (the "Board") at a duly convened special meeting of the Board, held by telephone on November 10, 1998, at which George B. Kelly, Chairman, Doug Cahill, Peter Grauer, Jeffrey Walker, Bob Robinson, Walid Mansur, Ray Chung and Stephen Sherrill were present.

### Merger of Doane Transition, L.L.C. with and into the Company

WHEREAS, the Company is the owner of all of the issued and outstanding membership interests of Doane Transition, L.L.C., a Texas limited liability company ("Transition");

WHEREAS, the only class of equity interests in Transition consists of the membership interests held by the Company;

WHEREAS, Transition and the Company desire to merge Transition with and into the Company with the Company continuing as the surviving corporation.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the merger of Transition with and into the Company with the Company continuing as the surviving corporation is hereby approved; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Merger be effected pursuant to Section 253 of the DGCL and Article 10.05 of the Texas Limited Liability Company Act (the "Act"); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Merger be effective at 11:07 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on November 12, 1998; and be it further

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to Section 251(d) of the DGCL, prior to the effectiveness of the Merger, the board of directors of the Company or Transition may terminate the Merger; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the officers of the Company are authorized to take such action and enter into, execute, deliver, record and file such agreements, documents, instruments and certificates as such officers deem necessary or desirable to effect the Merger in accordance with the DGCL and the Act.

RESOLVED, that any and all action taken by any proper officer of the Company prior to the date this Consent is actually executed in effecting the purposes of the foregoing resolutions is hereby ratified, approved, confirmed, and adopted in all respects.

Following the adoption of the foregoing resolutions, the Board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by the undersigned as of the date first set forth above.

Thomas R. Heidenthal, Secretary

C:\MERGERS\ART-LLC.A

## Office of the Secretary of Stat.

I, EDWARD J. FREEL, SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THE ATTACHED IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE CERTIFICATE OF MERGER, WHICH MERGES:

\*DOANE TRANSITION, L.L.C.", A TEXAS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY,

WITH AND INTO "DOANE PET CARE COMPANY" UNDER THE NAME OF "DOANE PET CARE COMPANY", A CORPORATION ORGANIZED AND EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, AS RECEIVED AND FILED IN THIS OFFICE THE TWELFTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, A.D. 1998, AT 10:01 O'CLOCK A.M.

9415532 AUTHENTICATION

11-19-98

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STATE OF CFLAWARE SECRETARY OF STATE DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS FILED 10:01 AM 11/12/1998 281434933 - 254521

#### CERTIFICATE OF MERCER

This Certificate of Mergar is being filed by the undersigned corporation pursuant to Section 264 of the Delaware General Corporation Law (the "DGCL") to effect the merger (the "Merger") of Donne Transition, L.L.C., a Texas limited liability company ("Transition"), with and into Donne Pet Care Company, a Delaware corporation formerly known as Donne Products Company ("Donne"). The undersigned certifies as follows:

- 1. The constituent entities are Doane Transition, L.L.C., a Texas corporation, and Doane Pet Care Company, a Delaware corporation.
- An agreement of merger has been approved, adopted, certified, executed and acknowledged by each of the constituent corporation in accordance with Section 264 of the DGCL. The executed agreement of merger is on file at the offices of the surviving company, Donne Pet Care Company, [03 Powell Court, Suite 200, Brantwood, Tennessee 37027. The surviving entity shall furnish a copy of the agreement of merger, on request and without cost, to any stockholder of Donne and any member of Transition.
- The surviving entity in the Merger is Dosne Pet Care Company. The certificate of incorporation of the surviving entity in effect immediately prior to the Merger shall be the certificate of incorporation of the surviving entity after the Merger.

The Merger shall be effective at 11:07 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on November 12, 1998. The Board of Directors of Donne may terminate the agreement of merger prior to the effectiveness of the Merger at the time set forth in the preceding sentence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this Certificate of Ownership and Merger as of this 10th day of November, 1998.

DOANE PET CARE COMPANY

By:

Thomas R. Heidenthal Senior Vice President

Chief Financial Officer

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**RECORDED: 12/27/2000**