UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): April 25, 2018

SPECTRUM BRANDS HOLDINGS, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-34757 (Commission File Number) 27-2166630 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

SB/RH HOLDINGS, LLC

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 33-192634-03 (Commission File Number) 27-2812840 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

3001 Deming Way Middleton, Wisconsin 53562 (Address of principal executive offices)

(608) 275-3340 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not applicable (Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
icate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§232.405 of this chapter) or e 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).
Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc. □ SB/RH Holdings, LLC □
n emerging growth company, indicate by checkmark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or ised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.
Spectrum Brands□ Holdings, Inc.
SB/RH Holdings, LLC □

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

On April 26, 2018, Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc. (the "Company") announced the appointment of David M. Maura to the additional position of Chief Executive Officer of the Company ("CEO") effective as of April 25, 2018, replacing Andreas Rouvé, who on that date stepped down as the Company's Chief Executive Officer and as a director of the Company. This appointment is in addition to Mr. Maura's continuing role as the Executive Chairman ("Executive Chairman") of the Board of Directors ("Board"), a position he has held since January 2016.

Employment Agreement with Mr. Maura

In connection with this appointment, Mr. Maura entered into an Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated April 25, 2018 (the "Employment Agreement"), with the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Spectrum Brands, Inc. ("SBI"). The Employment Agreement amends and restates Mr. Maura's prior employment agreement, dated January 20, 2016 (the "2016 Agreement."). The Employment Agreement is substantially similar to the 2016 Agreement, with the most significant differences being:

- Mr. Maura is assuming the additional position of Chief Executive Officer and continuing his service as the Executive Chairman of the Company.
- The initial term of the Employment Agreement extends until April 2021, subject to earlier termination.
- Mr. Maura will receive an additional \$200,000 annually as salary for serving as Chief Executive Officer. No change is being made to Mr. Maura's compensation for serving as the Executive Chairman of the Company.
- Mr. Maura will receive an additional award valued at \$200,000 under the Company's Equity Incentive Plan ("EIP") for his additional role of Chief Executive Officer.
- The Employment Agreement provides the Company the ability to terminate Mr. Maura's role as Chief Executive Officer without terminating his role as Executive Chairman. The Company also has the ability to terminate all of Mr. Maura's roles with the Company.

The following is a description of the material provisions of the Employment Agreement:

The initial term of the Employment Agreement will extend until April 24, 2021, subject to earlier termination (the "Initial Term"), with automatic one year renewals thereafter. The Employment Agreement provides Mr. Maura with an annual base salary as Executive Chairman of \$700,000 ("EC Base Salary") and an annual base salary of \$200,000 for the duration of his services as CEO ("CEO Base Salary," and the EC Base Salary and the CEO Base Salary together the "Base Salary") and he will be eligible to receive a performance-based management incentive plan ("MIP") bonus for each fiscal year, based on a target of 125% of the EC Base Salary and the CEO Base Salary, as may be applicable at the time (the "Target Amount") paid during the applicable fiscal year during the term of the Employment Agreement, provided the Company achieves certain annual performance goals as established by the Board and/or the Compensation Committee of the Board. If such performance goals are met, the MIP bonus will be payable in cash or stock. If Mr. Maura exceeds the performance targets, the bonus will be increased in accordance with the formula approved by the Compensation Committee no later than the close of the first quarter of the year following the applicable fiscal year; provided that the bonus will not exceed 250% of the Target Amount. For fiscal year 2018, Mr. Maura's Target Amount shall be based on the full Base Salary of \$900,000.

Mr. Maura will receive an additional award valued at \$200,000 under the Company's Equity Incentive Plan ("EIP"). The Employment Agreement does not change prior equity awards made to Mr. Maura, including prior grants made to Mr. Maura under the EIP. At the discretion of the Compensation Committee and/or the Board, Mr. Maura remains eligible for future awards under the EIP and is also eligible to receive future grants and/or participate in future multi-year incentive programs.

Mr. Maura has previously received certain equity awards under the 2016 Agreement and subsequently, including restricted stock unit ("RSU") awards, and awards under the Spectrum S3B Plan, which are granted under the Company's 2011 Omnibus Equity Award Plan, as amended (the "2011 Plan"). The EIP and S3B Equity Awards are performance-based and actual awards received may range from zero to the maximum amounts that could be earned under the Plans, determined on the basis of performance relative to performance measures and goals as set by the Compensation Committee and the Board. A discussion of such awards, including awards made to Mr. Maura, is included in Item 11 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, as amended, for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2017.

The Employment Agreement also provides Mr. Maura with, among other things: (i) four weeks of paid vacation for each full year; (ii) eligibility for Mr. Maura to participate in the Company's executive auto lease program; (iii) a stipend for income tax filings and returns preparation and advice and estate planning advice; and (iv) eligibility for Mr. Maura to participate in any of the Company's insurance plans and other benefits, if any, as the benefits are made available to other executive officers of the Company.

Under the Employment Agreement, Mr. Maura is entitled to receive severance benefits if his employment is terminated under certain circumstances. In general, termination as Executive Chairman and as CEO are determined separately, so that termination from either position will generally provide for payments in respect only of that position, and a termination from both positions will provide for payments in respect of both positions.

Accordingly, if Mr. Maura's role as CEO is terminated without terminating his role as Executive Chairman of the Company, Mr. Maura will be entitled to receive the following severance benefits: (i) the vesting of \$250,000 of his outstanding time-based equity awards, based on grant-date value, as determined by the Compensation Committee; (ii) a cash payment of \$500,000 ratably monthly in arrears over the 12 month period following such termination; and (iii) a pro rata portion, in cash, of the annual MIP bonus related to the CEO Base Salary that Mr. Maura would have earned for the fiscal year in which termination occurs.

If Mr. Maura's employment as Executive Chairman is terminated by the Company without "Cause" (as defined below), by Mr. Maura for "Good Reason" (as defined below), or by reason of death or by the Company for disability, or upon a Company initiated non-renewal, Mr. Maura will be entitled to the following severance benefits: (i) a cash payment equal to 1.5x the EC Base Salary, (iii) a cash payment equal to 1x the target annual MIP bonus of 125% of Mr. Maura's then current EC Base Salary, each payable ratably on a monthly basis over the 18-month period following termination; (iv) a pro rata portion, in cash, of the annual MIP bonus Mr. Maura would have earned for the fiscal year in which termination occurs if his employment had not ceased; (v) medical insurance coverage and certain other employee benefits for Mr. Maura and his dependents for the 18-month period following termination; (v) payment of accrued vacation time pursuant to Company policy; and (vii) all unvested outstanding time based equity awards will immediately vest as provided in the applicable equity award agreements. If, however, during the Initial Term, Mr. Maura's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause, by Mr. Maura for Good Reason, or due to a Change in Control Termination (as defined below), then instead of the applicable severance payment referred to above, he will receive a cash payment equal to the greater of (x) a cash amount equal to 1.5x the applicable Base Salary, or (y) a cash amount equal to his applicable monthly Base Salary times the number of months remaining in the Initial Term, with a pro rata amount being calculated for any partial month in that time period.

In the case of complete termination, severance payments and vesting are conditioned upon Mr. Maura's execution of a release of claims in favor of the Company and its controlled affiliates.

If, in the period that begins sixty (60) days prior to the occurrence of a change in control (as defined in the 2011 Plan), or in limited cases earlier, and ends upon the first anniversary of such change in control, Mr. Maura's employment (as Executive Chairman or in all his roles) is terminated by the Company without Cause (and not due to death or Disability) or by Mr. Maura for Good Reason, then the termination will be deemed a "Change in Control Termination." Upon a Change in Control Termination, (i) Mr. Maura will receive all severance benefits available to him as if he terminated his employment for "Good Reason" (as described above); and (ii) all outstanding and unvested performance-based equity awards will vest in full (at the target level).

For purposes of the Employment Agreement, "Cause" is defined as (i) the commission by Mr. Maura of any deliberate and premeditated act taken by him in bad faith against the interests of the Company or SBI that causes or is reasonably anticipated to cause material harm to the Company or SBI; (ii) Mr. Maura being convicted of, or pleading nolo contendere with respect to, any felony or of any lesser crime or offense having as its predicate element fraud, dishonesty, or misappropriation of the property of the Company or SBI that causes or is reasonably anticipated to cause material harm to the Company or SBI; (iii) the habitual drug addiction or intoxication of Mr. Maura which negatively impacts his job performance or Mr. Maura's failure of a Company-required drug test; (iv) the willful failure or refusal of Mr. Maura to perform his duties as set forth in the agreement or the willful failure or refusal to follow the direction of the Board that is consistent with the Employment Agreement, provided such failure or refusal continues after 30 calendar days of the receipt of written notice from the Board of such failure or refusal; or (v) Mr. Maura materially breaches any of the terms of the Employment Agreement or any other agreement between himself and the Company or SBI and the breach is not cured within 30 calendar days after written notice from the Company or SBI.

In addition, for purposes of the Employment Agreement, "Good Reason" is defined as (i) any reduction, not consented to by Mr. Maura, in Mr. Maura's Base Salary or target MIP bonus opportunity, then in effect; (ii) the relocation, not consented by Mr. Maura, of the office at which he is principally employed as of the date of the Employment Agreement to a location more than 50 miles from such office, or the requirement by the Company that Mr. Maura be based at an location other than such office on an extended basis, except for required business travel; (iii) a substantial diminution or other substantive adverse change, not consented to by Mr. Maura, in the nature or scope of his responsibilities, authorities, powers, functions, or duties; (iv) a breach by the Company of any of its material obligations under the Employment Agreement; or (v) the failure of the Company to obtain the agreement for any successor to the Company or SBI to assume and agree to perform the Company's obligations under the Employment Agreement.

Mr. Maura is bound by noncompetition provisions that restrict him from competing with the Company through a period of 18 months following the termination of his employment with the Company. Mr. Maura also is subject to non-solicitation restrictions with respect to Company customers and employees for the same period. Finally, Mr. Maura is subject to confidentiality provisions protecting the Company's confidential business information from unauthorized disclosure.

The foregoing description of the Employment Agreement is a summary and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Employment Agreement, a copy of which is filed herewith as Exhibit 10.1 to this report on Form 8-K and incorporated by reference herein.

Other than as described herein, Mr. Maura was not selected as Executive Chairman or CEO pursuant to any arrangement or understanding between him and any other person. There are no family relationships between Mr. Maura and any of the Company's other directors or executive officers. Since the beginning of the Company's last fiscal year, there has been no transaction or any currently proposed transaction, in which the Company was or is to be a participant and in which Mr. Maura or any of his immediate family members had or will have a direct or indirect material interest, required to be disclosed under Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K, except as disclosed by HRG Group, Inc. on Form S-4, in the section titled "The Merger—Interests of Spectrum's Directors and Officers in the Merger—Ownership of HRG Common Stock" contained therein, which Form S-4 was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") on April 10, 2018 and which section is incorporated by reference herein.

Departure of Mr. Rouvé

As noted above, on April 26, 2018, the Company announced that Andreas Rouvé, Chief Executive Officer and President and a director of the Company, had stepped down from his positions as Chief Executive Officer and President of the Company, his positions with SBI and as a member of the Board, effective April 25, 2018.

In connection with Mr. Rouvé's resignation, the Company, SBI and Mr. Rouvé entered into a Separation Agreement and Release (the "Separation Agreement"). Under the terms of the Separation Agreement, Mr. Rouvé will receive the following cash separation payments: (i) \$183,750, payable over 90 days, in lieu of 90 days' notice of termination under Mr. Rouvé's employment agreement with the Company (the "Notice Period"); (ii) payment for accrued but unused vacation days; (iii) \$1,102,750, which is equal to one and one-half times Mr. Rouvé's annual base salary at the time of his resignation, payable over a period of 18 months following the Notice Period; (iv) \$918,750, which is equal to Mr. Rouve's bonus at target level under the Company's 2018 Management Incentive Plan, payable over a period of 18 months following the Notice Period; (v) the annual bonus earned, if any, by Mr. Rouvé pursuant to the Company's 2018 Management Incentive Plan, based on actual performance results, to be paid, if at all, in a lump sum or, at the election of the Company, common stock of the Company at substantially the same time as fiscal 2018 bonuses are paid to other executives of the Company; (vi) for a period of 18 months following the Notice Period, continuation medical, dental, vision and prescription drug benefits, provided that such continuation benefits shall end earlier upon Mr. Rouvé's becoming eligible for comparable coverage under another employer's benefit plans; (vii) the continuance of the Company-owned life insurance benefit for Mr. Rouvé and certain German pension contributions for a period of 18 months following the Notice Period; (viii) a relocation payment of \$500,000 in satisfaction of the Company's obligation to provide relocation costs under Mr. Rouvé's employment agreement; (ix) the use of Mr. Rouvé's Company-subsidized leased vehicle for a period of twelve months following the Notice Period, and, after such period, the entitlement to purchase such Company-subsidized leased vehicle; (x) any earned but unpaid base salary through the date of resignation; (xi) the reimbursement of any unreimbursed business expenses; (xii) accrued benefits, to the extent vested, under all employee benefit plans in which Mr. Rouvé participated (except for any plan that provides for bonus, severance, separation pay or termination benefits); and (viii) tax preparation assistance, and if applicable, a make-whole payment equal to Mr. Rouvé's tax liability for the foregoing benefits, to be paid, if at all, between January 1 and March 31 of the year following the year in which the foregoing benefits become includable in Mr. Rouvé's income for tax purposes. Mr. Rouvé's entitlement to the foregoing consideration is subject to his continuing compliance with the terms of the Separation Agreement, which includes various restrictive covenants, including covenants relating to non-competition, non-solicitation, non-disparagement and confidentiality.

Mr. Rouvé's previously earned performance shares under the Company's 2017 EIP Award that have not previously vested, will vest following the release by Mr. Rouvé referred to below becoming effective and irrevocable. Mr. Rouvé will not be eligible for performance shares under the Company's 2018 EIP or the Company's multi-year programs.

Mr. Rouvé has agreed to a customary release of potential claims against the Company.

The foregoing summary of the Separation Agreement is a summary and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Separation Agreement, a copy of which is filed herewith as Exhibit 10.2 and is incorporated by reference herein.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

- (a) Not applicable.(b) Not applicable.(c) Not applicable.(d) Exhibits.

The following exhibits are being filed with this Current Report on Form 8-K.

Exhibit No.	Description					
10.1	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated as of April 25, 2018, by and among Spectrum Brands, Inc., Spectrum					
	Brands Holdings, Inc. and David M. Maura					
10.2	Separation Agreement and Release, dated April 25, 2018, by and among Spectrum Brands, Inc., Spectrum Brands Holdings,					
	Inc. and Andreas Rouvé					

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: May 1, 2018

SPECTRUM BRANDS HOLDINGS, INC.

By: /s/ Nathan E. Fagre

Name: Nathan F. Fagre

Title: Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

AMENDED AND RESTATED EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

This AMENDED AND RESTATED EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT ("<u>Agreement</u>") is entered into as of April 25, 2018 by and among Spectrum Brands, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "<u>Company</u>"), Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation (including any entity that becomes the successor public holding company of such entity, the "<u>Parent</u>"), and David M. Maura ("<u>Executive</u>").

WHEREAS, the parties have previously entered into that certain Employment Agreement, dated January 20, 2016, as amended (the "Initial Agreement"), pursuant to which the duties, terms, conditions, and compensation arrangements for the Executive's employment with the Parent and Company as executive chairman of the Board of Directors of the Parent were set forth; and

WHEREAS, the parties now desire to expand the employment duties of the Executive and change the compensation and certain other terms and conditions of the Initial Agreement, and accordingly agree to amend and restate such agreement as set forth herein.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises and mutual agreements contained herein, which include the provision of certain benefits and compensation to which Executive would not otherwise be entitled or receive, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Company, the Parent and Executive hereby agree as follows:

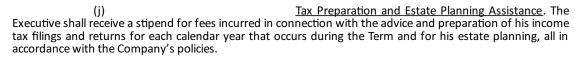
- 1. Employment Duties and Acceptance. The Company hereby employs Executive as, and Executive agrees to serve and accept employment with the Company as, Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Parent ("EC"), and Chief Executive Officer of the Parent ("CEO"), in both roles reporting directly to the Board of Directors of the Parent (the "Board"). During the Term (as defined in Section 2 hereof), Executive shall perform such duties as reasonably requested by the Board consistent with Executive's respective positions as EC and CEO, as applicable, and shall devote such time as is reasonably necessary to perform his duties under this Agreement. As EC and as CEO, Executive shall have the authority and responsibilities consistent with such titles. It is understood and agreed that any actions with respect to Executive's employment, including amendments to this Agreement or changes in compensation, may only be taken pursuant to the advance approval of the Board. In addition, during the Term, Executive agrees to serve, without any additional compensation, as the Chief Executive Officer of the Company and as an officer and/or director of any other subsidiaries or controlled affiliates of the Parent, as requested by the Board and so long as consistent with the terms of this Agreement.
- 2. <u>Term of Employment</u>. Subject to the termination of employment as set forth in Section 4 hereof, Executive's employment and appointment hereunder shall be for a term commencing on April 25, 2018 (the "<u>Effective Date</u>") and expiring thirty-six (36) months thereafter, on April 24, 2021 (the "<u>Initial Term</u>"). Upon expiration of the Initial Term and subject to the termination of employment provisions as set forth in Section 4 hereof, this Agreement shall automatically extend for successive renewal periods of one (1) year (the "<u>Renewal Term(s)</u>"), unless either party provides written notice at least ninety (90) days prior to the last day of the Renewal Term of its election not to renew the Initial Term or any Renewal Term. The Initial Term and any Renewal Terms shall be collectively referred herein to as the "<u>Term</u>". For the avoidance of doubt, any termination for non-renewal of the Term shall be treated in accordance with Section 4(d) hereof.
- 3. <u>Compensation and Benefits</u>. During the Term of this Agreement and provided Executive's employment has not terminated pursuant to Section 4 hereof, in consideration for the

performance by Executive of his duties hereunder, the Company shall pay or provide to Executive certain compensation and benefits as set forth in this Section 3, as set forth in existing Company compensation plans and equity awards, and such other compensation as the Compensation Committee of the Board (the "Compensation Committee") may determine and as approved by the Board (collectively, "Compensation and Benefits"). Executive agrees to accept the Compensation and Benefits as set forth in this Section 3 in full satisfaction for his performance hereunder and agrees that necessary withholdings for taxes, FICA contributions and the like (including any other applicable withholdings) may be deducted from such Compensation and Benefits.

- (a) <u>Base Salary</u>. During the Term and for so long as applicable, Executive shall receive a base salary of (i) Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000) per annum for his services as EC (the "<u>EC Base Salary</u>") and (ii) Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) per annum for his services as CEO (the "<u>CEO Base Salary</u>") (collectively, "<u>Base Salary</u>"). Such amounts, as applicable, shall be paid in equal semi-monthly installments in arrears. The Compensation Committee shall review annually the Base Salary payable to Executive hereunder and may, in its discretion and with approval of the Board, increase (but not decrease) one or both of such amounts comprising the Base Salary. Any such increased E C Base Salary or CEO Base Salary shall be and become the "EC Base Salary" or "CEO Base Salary", respectively, for purposes of this Agreement.
- Annual Management Incentive Plan Bonus. Executive shall be eligible to receive a Management Incentive Plan (or comparable successor plan) bonus (the "Bonus") for each fiscal year during the Term, payable annually as set forth below, which shall be based on a target amount of one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of EC Base Salary and CEO Base Salary, each for so long as applicable hereunder (the "Target Amount") paid during the applicable fiscal year, provided the Parent achieves certain annual performance goals (the "MIP Performance Targets") as established by the Board and/or Compensation Committee for each applicable fiscal year, following consultation with Executive. For the 2018 fiscal year, the Target Amount shall be based on the full fiscal year Base Salary of \$900,000, and not a lesser prorated amount. Such performance targets shall be communicated within seventy-five (75) days following the commencement of the applicable fiscal year. If Executive exceeds the Performance Target in the applicable fiscal year, the Bonus shall be increased in accordance with the formula approved by the Compensation Committee no later than the close of the first quarter of the year following the applicable fiscal year; provided, however, in no event shall the Bonus exceed 250% of the Target Amount. Any such increased annual Bonus shall be and become the "Bonus" for the applicable fiscal year for purposes of this Agreement. The Bonus shall be payable in cash and/or stock (which shall be vested fully as of the date of grant) the percentages of which shall be identical to those paid to the Company's senior executives as established by the Compensation Committee, but not later than the seventy-fourth (74th) calendar day following the end of the fiscal year to which the Bonus relates.
- (c) <u>Insurance Coverages and Benefits</u>. Executive shall be eligible to participate in such insurance plans (including, but not limited to, healthcare, dental, vision, life, supplemental life, and disability) and all other benefits, if any, as are made available from time to time by the Company to its executive officers, subject to the terms and conditions of such plans, as may be amended, modified or terminated from time to time.
- (d) <u>Annual Equity Incentive Plan Awards</u>. Executive shall be eligible to participate in the Company's Equity Incentive Program or comparable successor plan ("<u>EIP</u>"). For each fiscal year ending during the Term (commencing with fiscal year 2018), Executive shall be eligible to receive a

performance-based restricted stock unit award ("EIP Award") valued at the target level of performance at Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) for his service as EC and at Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for his service as CEO, each for so long as applicable hereunder, with both such values determined on the grant date for the applicable fiscal year, provided the Parent achieves certain annual performance goals (the "EIP Performance Targets") as established by the Board and/or Compensation Committee for each such applicable fiscal year, following consultation with Executive. Both the grant of any EIP Award and vesting of any earned restricted stock units pursuant to the EIP Award shall be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the award agreement for such EIP Award and the applicable shareholder-approved stock plan (which currently is the Spectrum Brand Holdings, Inc. 2011 Omnibus Equity Award Plan, as amended (the "Omnibus Stock Plan")) and shall be subject to the Compensation Committee's and Board's approval.

- (e) <u>Spectrum S3B Equity Program Award</u>. Executive shall continue his participation in the S3B multi-year equity incentive program in accordance with the existing terms and conditions as set for in the S3B equity award agreement, subject to the provisions of the Omnibus Stock Plan and any payouts under such award will remain subject to the Compensation Committee's and Board's approval.
- (f) Future Multi-year Incentive Programs. At the discretion of the Compensation Committee and with Board approval, during the Term Executive may be eligible to participate in future multi-year incentive programs and to receive additional grants of stock, restricted stock, restricted stock units, and/or stock option awards, including under successor programs to the Spectrum S3B Equity Program. Any award of stock, restricted stock, restricted stock units, and/or stock options, shall be subject to the terms and conditions as established by the Compensation Committee and approved by the Board, after consultation with the Executive, which terms shall be substantially identical to those for the Company's other senior executives.
- (g) Vesting of Equity. The vesting of equity grants to Executive shall be as provided in each applicable equity award agreement; provided, however, that such equity award agreements shall provide, and shall be deemed to provide in case of any ambiguity or discrepancy, that (1) in the event of a termination of employment by the Company without Cause, for death or Disability, or by Executive for Good Reason (each as defined in this Agreement), there shall be accelerated vesting of all unvested outstanding time-based equity awards; and (2) in the event of a Change in Control Termination (as defined in this Agreement) there shall be accelerated vesting of all unvested outstanding time-based and performance-based awards (at target); in each case as more fully set forth in the applicable award agreements.
- (h) <u>Vacation</u>. Executive shall be entitled to four (4) weeks of vacation for each full year.
- (i) <u>Vehicle</u>. Pursuant to the Company's policy for use of vehicles by executives, Executive shall be provided with the use of a leased vehicle. Unless the Executive's employment is terminated by the Company for Cause pursuant to Section 4(a) or by the Executive voluntarily pursuant to Section 4(f), Executive shall be permitted to drive the Company vehicle for the duration of the twelve (12)-month period following termination and at the end of such twelve (12)-month period, Executive will be permitted to purchase the Company vehicle at the Company's book value of the vehicle as of the date of purchase.



- (k) <u>Other Expenses</u>. Executive shall be entitled to reimbursement of all reasonable and documented expenses actually incurred or paid by Executive in the performance of Executive's duties under this Agreement, upon presentation of expense statements, vouchers or other supporting information in accordance with Company policy. All expense reimbursements and other perquisites of Executive are reviewable periodically by the Compensation Committee of the Board.
- (I) <u>D&O Insurance</u>. Executive shall be entitled to indemnification from the Company as set forth in Section 10(r) hereof. Such indemnification shall be covered by the terms of the Company's and the Parent's policies of insurance for directors and officers in effect from time to time (the "<u>D&O Insurance</u>"). Copies of the Parent's and the Company's charters, by-laws and D&O Insurance will be made available to Executive upon request.

4. Termination.

- (a) <u>Termination by the Company with Cause</u>. The Company, pursuant to the direction of the Board, shall have the right at any time to terminate Executive's employment hereunder, upon written notice upon the occurrence of any of the following (any such termination being referred to as termination for "Cause"):
- (i) the commission by Executive of any deliberate and premeditated act taken by Executive in bad faith against the interests of the Parent, the Company or their controlled affiliates that causes or is reasonably anticipated to cause material harm to the Parent, the Company or their controlled affiliates;
- (ii) Executive has been convicted of, or pleads nolo contendere with respect to, any felony or any lesser crime or offense having as its predicate element fraud, dishonesty or misappropriation of the property of the Parent, the Company or their controlled affiliates that causes or is reasonably anticipated to cause material harm to the Parent, the Company or their controlled affiliates;
- (iii) the habitual drug addiction or intoxication of Executive which negatively impacts his job performance, or Executive's failure of a Company-required drug test;
- (iv) the willful failure or refusal of Executive to perform his duties as set forth herein or the willful failure or refusal to follow the direction of the Board that are consistent with the terms of this Agreement, <u>provided</u> such failure or refusal continues after thirty (30) calendar days of the receipt of notice in writing from the Board of such failure or refusal, which notice refers to this Section 4(a) and indicates the Company's intention to terminate Executive's employment hereunder if such failure or refusal is not remedied within such thirty (30) day period; or
- (v) Executive materially breaches any of the terms of this Agreement or any other agreement between Executive and the Company and/or the Parent, which breach is not cured within thirty (30) calendar days subsequent to notice from the Company to Executive of such breach and

which notice refers to this Section 4(a) and indicates the Company's intention to terminate Executive's employment hereunder if such breach is not cured within such thirty (30) day period.

If such definition of termination for "Cause" set forth above conflicts or differs with such definition in Executive's time-based or performance-based restricted stock unit or restricted stock award agreements (individually, the "Stock Agreement" and collectively, the "Stock Agreements"), or any agreements referred to therein, the definition set forth in this Agreement shall control.

- (b) <u>Termination for Death or Disability</u>. The Company, pursuant to the direction of the Board, shall have the right at any time to terminate Executive's employment hereunder upon thirty (30) calendar days prior written notice should Executive (i) suffer a medically determinable physical or mental impairment that (x) can reasonably and in good faith be expected to result in death or (y) can reasonably and in good faith be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than six months; provided that, in each case such impairment actually causes Executive to be unable to perform the duties of his position hereunder or any substantially similar position of employment for a period of at least three (3) months ("<u>Disability</u>") and (ii) not have returned to the full-time performance of his duties within thirty (30) calendar days after such notice of termination is given to the Executive. The Company's obligations hereunder shall, subject to the provisions of Section 5(b), also terminate upon the death of Executive.
- (c) <u>Termination without Cause</u>. The Company, pursuant to the direction of the Board, shall have the right at any time to terminate Executive's employment, with respect to his role as CEO, or all of his roles, for any other reason without Cause upon ninety (90) calendar days prior written notice or immediately with payment of CEO Base Salary, or the E C Base Salary, as applicable, for such period in lieu of notice thereof to Executive; <u>provided that</u>, it is agreed and understood that the Parent may elect to terminate the Executive's role as CEO without terminating his role as EC, but if the Parent elects to terminate his role as EC, it shall also terminate all his other roles with the Parent and the Company.
- (d) <u>Termination for Non-renewal</u>. For all purposes of this Agreement, the termination of Executive's employment with respect to his role as CEO or all of his roles, as a result of the failure of the Company, pursuant to the direction of the Board, to renew the Initial Term or any subsequent Renewal Term shall be deemed a termination without Cause with respect to such role(s), as of the date of the expiration of the Term. Upon the expiration of the Initial Term or any Renewal Term then in effect under this Section 4(d), with respect to any or all of the Executive's role(s), Executive's employment shall terminate with respect to such applicable role(s).
- (e) <u>Termination in Connection with a Change in Control.</u> If in the period that begins sixty (60) days prior to the occurrence of a Change in Control (or, if earlier, upon the signing of a definitive agreement to enter into an event that actually results in a Change in Control) and ends upon the first anniversary of after the consummation of such Change in Control, Executive's employment with respect to his role as EC or all his roles is terminated by the Company without Cause (and not due to death or Disability) or by Executive for Good Reason (such termination, a "Change in Control Termination"), then the Executive shall be entitled to the payments, benefits and acceleration of unvested equity awards as set forth in Section 5(c) below with respect to his role as EC or all his roles (respectively). For purposes of this Agreement, "Change in Control" shall have the meaning given it in the Omnibus Stock Plan.

- (f) <u>Voluntary Termination by Executive</u>. Executive shall be entitled to voluntarily terminate his employment with respect to all (but not less than all) his roles hereunder upon ninety (90) calendar days' prior written notice to the Company. Any such termination with respect to all such roles shall be treated as a termination by the Company for "Cause" under Section 5(a). Notwithstanding the foregoing, with the prior consent on the Board, the Executive may terminate his position as CEO without terminating his other roles with the Company and in such case shall termination shall be treated in accordance with Section 5(b)(i).
- (g) <u>Termination by Executive for Good Reason</u>. Executive shall be entitled to terminate his employment and appointment with respect to his CEO role or all his roles hereunder for Good Reason if the Company fails to remedy the condition creating the Good Reason within thirty (30) calendar days subsequent to written notice from Executive to the Company, and any such termination with respect to such role(s) shall be treated as a termination by the Company without Cause with respect to such role(s). Written notice of the existence of the condition creating the Good Reason termination must be given by the Executive to the Company within ninety (90) calendar days after the date Executive has knowledge that an event constituting Good Reason has occurred. For this purpose, "Good Reason" shall mean:
- (i) any reduction, not consented to by Executive, in Executive's EC Base Salary, CEO Base Salary or the corresponding target annual bonus opportunities referred to in Section 3(b), then in effect;
- (ii) the relocation, not consented by Executive, of the office location at which Executive is principally employed as of the Effective Date ("Office") to a location more than fifty (50) miles from such Office, or the requirement by the Company that Executive be based at an office other than the Office on an extended basis, except for required travel on the Company's business to an extent substantially consistent with Executive's business travel obligations;
- (iii) a substantial diminution or other substantive adverse change, not consented to by Executive, in the nature or scope of Executive's responsibilities, authorities, powers, functions or duties with respect to his role as EC, with respect to his role as CEO, or with respect to both roles (as the case may be):
- (iv) a breach by the Company of any of its material obligations under this Agreement with respect to any of his roles; or
- (v) the failure of the Company to obtain the agreement for any successor to the Company or the Parent to assume and agree to perform this Agreement.
- (h) Notice of Termination. Any termination with respect to any of Executive's roles (except due to the death of Executive) shall be communicated by Notice of Termination to the other party hereto given in accordance with Section 8. For purposes of this Agreement, a "Notice of Termination" means a written notice given prior to the termination which (i) indicates the specific termination provision in this Agreement relied upon and the role or roles to which such termination relates, (ii) sets forth in reasonable detail the facts and circumstances claimed to provide a basis for termination of Executive's employment with respect to the specific role, under the provision so indicated and (iii) if the termination date is other than the date of receipt of such notice, specifies the termination date for such termination (which date shall be not more than fifteen (15) calendar days after the giving of such notice, unless a longer notice is required pursuant to another section of this

Agreement). The failure by any party to set forth in the Notice of Termination any fact or circumstance which contributes to a showing of Cause or Good Reason shall not waive any right of the party or preclude the party from asserting such fact or circumstance in enforcing its rights under this Agreement.

(i) Resignation from Positions with Company and Parent. Upon termination of the Executive's employment (x) from all his roles with the Company and Parent, unless the Company requests otherwise, Executive shall be deemed to have resigned, effective immediately, from all offices, directorships, and other positions he held with the Company, the Parent and their controlled affiliates or (y) from his CEO role with the Company and Parent, unless the Company requests otherwise, Executive shall be deemed to have resigned, effective immediately, from the CEO position held with the Company, the Parent and their controlled affiliates. In connection with the foregoing. Executive shall execute any documents reasonably required to effectuate such termination(s) or resignation(s) from any of his role(s) with the Company, the Parent and their subsidiaries and controlled affiliates. It is hereby acknowledged and agreed that, other than as provided in Section 5 hereof, Executive shall not be entitled to any additional compensation or benefits in connection with such resignation(s) or termination(s).

5. Effect of Termination of Employment.

- (a) Termination by the Company with Cause or Voluntarily by Executive. If during the Term, the Executive's employment with respect to his role as EC, as CEO, or all of his roles, is terminated by the Company with Cause or if Executive voluntarily terminates his employment with respect to one or more of his role(s) hereunder, Executive's Compensation (with respect to such role(s)) and Benefits (in the case where he is terminated from all his roles) specified in Section 3 shall cease at the time of such termination, and Executive shall not be entitled to any compensation specified in Section 3 which was not required to be paid prior to such termination; provided, however, that Executive shall be entitled to continue to participate in the Company's medical benefit plans to the extent required by law. Upon any such termination of any of the Executive's role(s), the Company shall promptly pay to Executive accrued salary and vacation pay, reimbursement for expenses incurred through the date of termination in accordance with the Company policy, and accrued benefits through the Company's benefit plans, programs and arrangements (the "Accrued Obligations").
- (b) Without Cause, for Good Reason, Death or Disability. If during the Term, the Executive's employment is terminated with respect to his role as CEO or all of his roles, (1) by the Company without Cause, (2) by Executive for Good Reason pursuant to Section 4(g), or (3) by reason of death or by the Company for Disability, then in each such case the Company shall pay Executive the Accrued Obligations and Executive's Compensation and Benefits specified in Section 3 with respect to the role(s) terminated through the date of such termination, and Executive shall not be entitled to any compensation with respect such role(s) specified in Section 3 that was not required to be paid prior to the date of such termination. In addition to the foregoing and provided that (x) Executive executes a separation agreement with respect to the role(s) terminated with a release of claims agreeable to the Company as further set forth in Section 5(b)(ii)(F) below (to the extent that Executive is physically and mentally capable to execute such an agreement) and (y) Executive adheres to the restrictions set forth in Sections 6 and 7 below (to the extent applicable), the Company shall pay Executive the amounts and provide Executive the benefits as follows:

(i) In the case of termination under this Section 5(b) from his

role as CEO:

(A) \$250,000 of Executive's outstanding timebased equity awards (based on the value ascribed to such awards at the time of grant) shall immediately vest in full, as provided in the applicable equity award agreements. The identity of which specific time-based equity awards shall be vested in full shall be as determined by the Compensation Committee of the Board in its sole discretion.

(B) The Company shall pay to Executive as severance a cash payment in an amount of \$500,000, such cash amount to be paid to Executive ratably monthly in arrears over the twelve (12)-month period immediately following such termination. Additionally, the Company shall pay to Executive a pro rata portion of the annual Bonus relating to the CEO Base Salary applicable to the fiscal year in which termination occurs based on the amount Executive would have earned for the fiscal year in which termination occurs, based on the achievement of the applicable MIP Performance Targets for such year, as determined by the Compensation Committee. Such pro-ration shall be based on the number of weeks Executive worked during such fiscal year prior to such termination divided by fifty-two (52). Payment of this pro-rated Bonus amount will be made in cash at the same time which a Bonus would have been paid to Executive for the fiscal year in which termination occurs if Executive had not terminated employment with the Company. If Executive's employment is terminated during the Initial Term by the Company without Cause, by Executive for Good Reason, or due to a Change in Control Termination, then for purposes of the calculation of the cash payments due to Executive pursuant to Section 5(b)(i)(B) above, this amount shall be equal to the greater of (xx) the cash amount referred to in Section 5(b)(i)(B) above or (yy) a cash amount equal to Executive's monthly CEO Base Salary times the number of months remaining in the Initial Term, with a pro rata amount being calculated for any partial month in such time period. Payments otherwise receivable by Executive pursuant to this Section 5(b)(i) shall cease immediately upon the discovery by the Company of Executive's breach of the covenants contained in Sections 6 or 7 hereof.

(ii) In the case of termination under this Section 5(b) from his role as EC:

The Company shall pay to Executive as severance a cash payment in an amount equal to the sum of (A) one and one-half (1-1/2) times Executive's EC Base Salary and (B) one (1) times the target annual Bonus of one hundred twenty five percent (125%) of Executive's then current EC Base Salary, such cash amount to be paid to Executive ratably monthly in arrears over the eighteen (18)-month period immediately following such termination. Additionally, the Company shall pay to Executive a pro rata portion of the annual Bonus relating to the EC Base Salary applicable to the fiscal year in which termination occurs based on the amount Executive would have earned for the fiscal year in which termination occurs, based on the achievement of the applicable MIP Performance Targets for such year, as determined by the Compensation Committee Such pro-ration shall be based on the number of weeks Executive worked during such fiscal year prior to such termination divided by fifty-two (52). Payment of this pro-rated Bonus amount will be made in cash at the same time which a Bonus would have been paid to Executive for the fiscal year in which termination occurs if Executive had not terminated employment with the Company. If Executive's employment is terminated during the Initial Term by the Company without Cause, by Executive for Good Reason, or due to a Change in Control Termination, then for purposes of the calculation of the cash payments due to Executive pursuant to this Section 5(b)(ii)(A) above, this amount shall be equal to the greater of (xx) the cash amount referred to in this Section 5(b)(ii)(A) above or (yy) a cash amount equal to Executive's monthly EC Base Salary times the number of months remaining in the Initial Term, with a pro rata amount being calculated for any partial month in such time period. Payments otherwise receivable by Executive pursuant to this Section 5(b)(ii) shall cease immediately upon the discovery by the Company of Executive's breach of the covenants contained in Sections 6 or 7 hereof.

- (B) For the eighteen (18)-month period immediately following such termination, the Company shall arrange to provide Executive and his dependents the additional benefits specified in Section 3(c) substantially similar to those provided to Executive and his dependents by the Company immediately prior to the date of termination, at no greater cost to Executive or the Company than the cost to Executive and the Company immediately prior to such date. Benefits otherwise receivable by Executive pursuant to this Section 5(b)(ii) shall cease immediately upon the discovery by the Company of Executive's breach of the covenants contained in Sections 6 or 7 hereof. In addition, benefits otherwise receivable by Executive pursuant to this Section 5(b)(ii) shall be reduced to the extent benefits of the same type are received by Executive during the eighteen (18)-month period following Executive's termination of employment (and any such benefits received by or made available to Executive shall be reported to the Company by Executive); provided, however, that the Company shall reimburse Executive for the excess, if any, of the cost of such benefits to Executive over such cost immediately prior to the date of termination.
- (C) Executive's accrued vacation (determined in accordance with Company policy) at the time of termination shall be paid as soon as reasonably practicable.
- (D) If Executive's employment with the Company terminates during the Term and Executive is eligible for benefits under this Section 5(b)(ii), Executive shall not be required to seek other employment or to attempt in any way to reduce any amounts payable to Executive by the Company pursuant to this Section 5(b)(ii), and there shall be no reduction or offset of such payments following Executive's obtaining any other employment.
- (E) All unvested outstanding time-based equity awards shall immediately vest in full, as provided in the applicable equity award agreements.
- A condition precedent to the Company's obligations to pay the severance and benefits in Section 5(b)(i) and/or Section 5(b)(ii) shall be the Executive's execution and delivery within fifty-five (55) days following his termination of such role(s) of a timely, effective and irrevocable release of claims in favor of the Company, the Parent and their controlled affiliates with respect to such terminated role(s), in the form as set forth in Exhibit A to this Agreement (such condition, the "Release Condition"); it being agreed and understood, that in the case of a termination of only the Executive's CEO role then such release of claims shall be limited to the Executive's CEO role and in the case of termination of all his role then such release of shall apply to all his roles with the Company, in each case using the form attached in Exhibit A to this Agreement. If the Executive fails to execute and deliver such release of claims within such fifty-five (55) day period, or if he revokes such release as provided therein, then he shall not receive the payments and benefits provided in Section 5(b)(i) and 5(b)(ii) or any other payment to which he is not otherwise entitled, except as provided in this Agreement. Payments and benefits of amounts which do not constitute nonqualified deferred compensation and are not subject to Section 409A (as defined below) shall commence five (5) days after the Release Condition is satisfied and payments and benefits which are subject to Section 409A shall commence on the sixtieth (60th) day after termination of employment (subject to further delay, if required pursuant to Section 9(b) below) provided that the Release Condition is satisfied.
- (c) <u>Change in Control Termination</u>. Upon a Change in Control Termination, and subject to the limitation in Section 5(b)(ii)(G) above, Executive shall be entitled to the payments and benefits as set forth in Section 5(b)(ii) above, and in addition all outstanding unvested performance-

based equity awards (as so defined in the applicable equity award agreements) shall immediately vest in full (at the target level), as provided in the applicable equity award agreement; provided, that as a condition precedent for Executive to be entitled to these payments, benefits and equity awards, he shall comply with the provisions of Section 5(b)(ii)(F) above.

6. Agreement Not to Compete.

- Executive agrees that during the Non-Competition Period (as defined below), he will not, directly or indirectly, in any capacity, either separately, jointly or in association with others, as an officer, director, consultant, agent, employee, owner, principal, partner or stockholder of any business, or in any other capacity, provide services of the same or similar kind or nature that he provides to the Company to, or have a financial interest in (excepting only the ownership of not more than two percent (2%) of the outstanding securities of any class listed on an exchange or the Nasdaq Stock Market), any competitor of the Company (which means any person or organization that is in the business of or makes money from designing, developing, or selling products or services similar to those products and services developed, designed or sold by the Company); provided, however, that Executive may provide services to or have a financial interest in a business that competes with the Company if his employment or financial interest is with a separately managed or operated division or affiliate of such business that does not compete with the Company; and provided further, that the obligations set forth in this section 6(a) shall be subject to the provisions of section 10(s). The "Non-Competition Period" is the period of Executive's employment (whether serving as EC, CEO, or both) hereunder plus a period of eighteen (18) months immediately thereafter. In recognition, acknowledgment and agreement that the Company's business and operations extend throughout North America, Latin America, the European Union, Asia and any other worldwide location in which the Company does business, the parties agree that the geographic scope of this covenant not to compete shall extend to North America, Latin America, the European Union, Asia and any other worldwide location in which the Company does business.
- (b) Without limiting the generality of Section 6(a) above, Executive further agrees that during the Non-Competition Period, he will not, directly or indirectly, in any capacity, either separately, jointly or in association with others, solicit, divert, take away, or attempt to solicit, divert, or take away or otherwise contact any of the Company's customers with whom Executive had contact, responsibility for, or had acquired confidential information about by virtue of his employment with the Company at any time during his employment, if such contact is for the general purpose of selling products that satisfy the same general needs as any products that the Company had available for sale to its customers during the Non-Competition Period.
- (c) Executive agrees that during the Non-Competition Period, he shall not (i) contact in order to induce, solicit or encourage any person to leave the Company's employ and (ii) hire any person who is an employee or consultant with the Company or who was an employee or consultant during the six (6) month period preceding such activity, without the Company's written consent. Nothing in this paragraph is meant to prohibit an employee of the Company that is not a party to this Agreement from becoming employed by another organization or person.
- (d) The Non-Competition Period shall be tolled by and automatically extended by the length of a breach by Executive, to the extent permitted by law. If a court determines that the foregoing restrictions are too broad or otherwise unreasonable under applicable law, including with respect to time or space, the court is hereby requested and authorized by the parties hereto to revise the foregoing restrictions to include the maximum restrictions allowed under the applicable law.

- (e) Executive hereby agrees not to defame or disparage the Company, its controlled affiliates and their respective officers, directors, members or employees. Executive hereby agrees to cooperate with the Company and its controlled affiliates, upon reasonable request, in refuting any defamatory or disparaging remarks by any third party made in respect of the Company or its controlled affiliates or their directors, members, officers or employees.
- (f) For purposes of this Section 6 and Section 7 below, the "Company" refers to the Company, the Parent, and any incorporated or unincorporated controlled affiliates of the Company.

7. Secret Processes and Confidential Information.

- Executive agrees to hold in strict confidence and, except as the Company may authorize or direct, not disclose to any person or use (except in the performance of his services hereunder) any confidential information or materials received by Executive from the Company and any confidential information or materials of other parties received by Executive in connection with the performance of his duties hereunder. For purposes of this Section 7(a), confidential information or materials shall include existing and potential customer information, existing and potential supplier information, product information, design and construction information, pricing and profitability information, financial information, sales and marketing strategies and techniques and business ideas or practices. The restriction on Executive's use or disclosure of the confidential information or materials shall remain in force during Executive's employment hereunder and until the earlier of (i) a period of seven (7) years thereafter or (ii) such information is of general knowledge in the industry through no fault of Executive or any agent of Executive. Executive also agrees to return to the Company promptly upon its request any Company information or materials in Executive's possession or under Executive's control. This Section 7(a) is not intended to preclude Executive from being gainfully employed by another entity, organization, association or person, or from being gainfully self-employed. Rather, it is intended to prohibit Executive from using the Company's confidential information or materials in any subsequent employment or employment undertaken that is not for the benefit of the Company during the identified period.
- (b) Executive will promptly disclose to the Company and to no other person, firm or entity all inventions, discoveries, improvements, trade secrets, formulas, techniques, processes, know-how and similar matters, whether or not patentable and whether or not reduced to practice, which are conceived or learned by Executive during the period of Executive's employment with the Company, either alone or with others, which relate to or result from the actual or anticipated business or research of the Company or which result, to any extent, from Executive's use of the Company's premises or property (collectively called the "Inventions"). Executive acknowledges and agrees that all the Inventions shall be the sole property of the Company, and Executive hereby assigns to the Company all of Executive's rights and interests in and to all of the Inventions, it being acknowledged and agreed by Executive that all the Inventions are works made for hire. The Company shall be the sole owner of all domestic and foreign rights and interests in the Inventions. Executive agrees to assist the Company at the Company's expense to obtain and, from time to time, enforce patents and copyrights on the Inventions.
- (c) Upon the request of and, in any event, upon termination of Executive's employment with the Company for any reason, Executive shall promptly deliver to the Company all documents, data, records, notes, drawings, manuals and all other tangible information in whatever form which pertains to the Company, and Executive will not retain any such information or any reproduction

or excerpt thereof. Nothing in this Agreement or elsewhere shall prevent Executive from retaining his desk calendars, address book (including electronic address books and contacts lists) and rolodex.

- (d) Nothing in this Section 7 diminishes or limits any protection granted by law to trade secrets or relieves Executive of any duty not to disclose, use or misappropriate any information that is a trade secret for as long as such information remains a trade secret.
- (e) Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement or any agreements on confidentiality, trade secrets or inventions, employment or severance agreements, or any other agreement that Executive may have entered into with the Company, the Parent or any subsidiaries or affiliates thereof on or prior to the date hereof (collectively, the "Confidentiality Agreements"), nothing contained in any of the Confidentiality Agreements shall (i) prohibit Executive from cooperating with or reporting to the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") possible violations of any law or regulation of the SEC, (ii) prohibit Executive from cooperating with or making other disclosures to the staff of the SEC that are protected under the whistleblower provisions of any federal securities laws or regulations or (iii) limit Executive's right to receive an award for information provided to the SEC staff in accordance with the foregoing. In addition, Executive shall not be prohibited from cooperating with or reporting to any government agency, including the National Labor Relations Board, the Department of Labor, or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or any other federal, state or local agency or authority. Executive does not need the prior authorizations of the Company or Parent to engage in such cooperation, reports, communications or disclosures and Executive is not required to notify the Company or Parent if he engages in any such cooperation, reports, communications or disclosures.
- 8. <u>Notices</u>. All notices or other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given (a) when delivered personally, (b) upon confirmation of receipt when such notice or other communication is sent by facsimile, (c) one (1) business day after delivery to an overnight delivery courier, or (d) on the fifth (5th) calendar day following the date of deposit in the United States mail if sent first class, postage prepaid, by registered or certified mail. The addresses for such notices shall be as follows:
- (a) For notices and communications to the Company or to the Parent:

Spectrum Brands, Inc. 3001 Deming Way Middleton, Wisconsin 53562 Facsimile: (608) 288-7546 Attention: General Counsel

(b) For notices and communications to Executive: at the address set forth in the records of the Company, as updated at the request of Executive from time to time.

Any party hereto may, by notice to the other, change its address for receipt of notices hereunder.

9. Section 409A.

- (a) This Agreement is intended to satisfy the requirements of Section 409A ("Section 409A") of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code") with respect to amounts, if any, subject thereto and shall be interpreted and construed and shall be performed by the parties consistent with such intent. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Executive shall be solely responsible and liable for the satisfaction of all taxes and penalties that may be imposed on or for the account of Executive in connection with payments and benefits provided in accordance with the terms of this Agreement (including any taxes and penalties under Section 409A of the Code), and neither the Company nor any of its affiliates shall have any obligation to indemnify or otherwise hold Executive (or any beneficiary) harmless from any or all of such taxes or penalties.
- (b) Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, the following special rule shall apply, if and to the extent required by Section 409A, in the event that (i) Executive is deemed to be a "specified employee" within the meaning of Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i), (ii) amounts or benefits under this Agreement or any other program, plan or arrangement of the Company or a controlled group affiliate thereof are due or payable on account of "separation from service" within the meaning of Treasury Regulations Section 1.409A-1(h) and (iii) Executive is employed by a public company or a controlled group affiliate thereof: no payments hereunder that are "deferred compensation" subject to Section 409A shall be made to Executive prior to the date that is six (6) months after the date of Executive's separation from service or, if earlier, Executive's date of death; following any applicable six (6) month delay, all such delayed payments will be paid in a single lump sum on the earliest permissible payment date.
- (c) Any payment or benefit due upon a termination of Executive's employment that represents a "deferral of compensation" within the meaning of Section 409A shall be paid or provided to Executive only upon a "separation from service," as defined in Treas. Reg. § 1.409A-1(h). Each payment made under this Agreement shall be deemed to be a separate payment for purposes of Section 409A. Amounts payable under this Agreement shall be deemed not to be a "deferral of compensation" subject to Section 409A to the extent provided in the exceptions in Treasury Regulation §§ 1.409A-1(b)(4) ("short-term deferrals") and (b)(9) ("separation pay plans," including the exception under subparagraph (iii)) and other applicable provisions of Treasury Regulation § 1.409A-1 through A-6.
- Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in Agreement, any payment or benefit under this Agreement or otherwise that is exempt from Section 409A pursuant to Treasury Regulation § 1.409A-1(b)(9)(v)(A) or (C) (relating to certain reimbursements and inkind benefits) shall be paid or provided to Executive only to the extent that the expenses are not incurred, or the benefits are not provided, beyond the last day of the second calendar year following the calendar year in which Executive's "separation from service" occurs; and provided further that such expenses are reimbursed no later than the last day of the third calendar year following the calendar year in which Executive's "separation from service" occurs. To the extent any indemnification payment, expense reimbursement, or the provision of any in-kind benefit is determined to be subject to Section 409A (and not exempt pursuant to the prior sentence or otherwise), the amount of any such indemnification payment or expenses eligible for reimbursement, or the provision of any in-kind benefit, in one calendar year shall not affect the indemnification payment or provision of in-kind benefits or expenses eligible for reimbursement in any other calendar year (except for any life-time or other aggregate limitation applicable to medical expenses), and in no event shall any indemnification payment or expenses be reimbursed after the last day of the calendar year following the calendar year in which Executive incurred such indemnification payment or expenses, and in no event shall any right to indemnification

payment or reimbursement or the provision of any inkind benefit be subject to liquidation or exchange for another benefit.

10. General.

- (a) <u>Dispute Resolution</u>. Any controversy, claim or dispute between the parties relating to Executive's employment or termination of employment, whether or not the controversy, claim or dispute arises under this Agreement (other than any controversy or claim arising under Section 6 or Section 7), shall be resolved by arbitration in accordance with the Employment Arbitration Rules and Mediation procedures of the American Arbitration Association ("Rules") through a single arbitrator selected in accordance with the Rules. The decision of the arbitrator shall be rendered within thirty (30) days of the close of the arbitration hearing and shall include written findings of fact and conclusions of law reflecting the appropriate substantive law. Judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof in the State of New York. In reaching his or her decision, the arbitrator shall have no authority (1) to interpret or enforce Section 6 or Section 7 of the Agreement (for which Section 10(b) shall provide the sole and exclusive venue), (2) to change or modify any provision of this Agreement, (3) to base any part of his or her decision on the common law principle of constructive termination, or (4) to award punitive damages or any other damages not measured by the prevailing party's actual damages and may not make any ruling, finding or award that does not conform to this Agreement. Each party shall bear all of his or its own legal fees, costs and expenses of arbitration and one-half (1/2) of the costs of the arbitrator.
- (b) Governing Law and Claims under Section 6 or 7. This Agreement shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York, without reference to its conflict of law provisions. Furthermore, as to Section 6 and Section 7, Executive, the Company and the Parent each agrees and consents to submit to personal jurisdiction in the State of New York or in any state or federal court of competent subject matter jurisdiction situated in New York County, New York. Executive, the Company and the Parent further agree that the sole and exclusive venue for any suit arising out of, or seeking to enforce, the terms of Section 6 and Section 7 of this Agreement shall be in a state or federal court of competent subject matter jurisdiction situated in New York County, New York. In addition, Executive, the Company and the Parent each waive any right to challenge in another court any judgment entered by such New York County court or to assert that any action instituted by another party to this Agreement in any such court is in the improper venue or should be transferred to a more convenient forum.
- (c) <u>Waiver of Jury Trial; Service</u>. Executive, the Company and the Parent waive any right he or they may otherwise have to a trial by jury in any action to enforce the terms of this Agreement. The parties hereto irrevocably consent to the service of any and all process in any suit, action or proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement by the mailing of copies of such process to such party at such party's address specified in Section 8, or such other updated address as has been provided to the other parties from time to time in accordance with Section 8. Each party shall bear its own costs and expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees and expenses) incurred in connection with any dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement.
- (d) <u>Amendment; Waiver</u>. This Agreement may be amended, modified, superseded, canceled, renewed or extended, and the terms hereof may be waived, only by a written instrument executed by all of the parties hereto or, in the case of a waiver, by the party waiving compliance. The failure of any party at any time or times to require performance of any provision hereof shall in no

manner affect the right at a later time to enforce the same. No waiver by any party of the breach of any term or covenant contained in this Agreement, whether by conduct or otherwise, in any one or more instances, shall be deemed to be, or construed as, a further or continuing waiver of any such breach, or a waiver of the breach of any other term or covenant contained in this Agreement.

- (e) <u>Successors and Assigns</u>. This Agreement shall be binding upon Executive, without regard to the duration of his employment by the Company or reasons for the cessation of such employment, and inure to the benefit of his administrators, executors, heirs and assigns, although the obligations of Executive are personal and may be performed only by him. This Agreement shall also be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Company, the Parent and their subsidiaries, successors and assigns, including any corporation with which or into which the Company or its successors may be merged or which may succeed to their assets or business.
- (f) <u>Entire Agreement</u>. This Agreement and the schedule hereto constitute the entire understanding of the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersede all prior negotiations, discussions, writings and agreements between them with respect to the subject matter hereof (including, but not limited to, the Initial Agreement).
- (g) <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument. Signatures delivered by facsimile or other electronic means (including by pdf) shall be deemed effective for all purposes.
- (h) <u>Non-exclusivity of Rights.</u> Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent or limit Executive's continuing or future participation during his employment hereunder in any benefit, bonus, incentive or other plan or program provided by the Company or any of its affiliates and for which Executive may qualify, except for any severance plan, program, policy or arrangement. Amounts which are vested benefits or which Executive is otherwise entitled to receive under any plan or program of the Company or any affiliated company at or subsequent to the date of Executive's termination of employment with the Company shall, subject to the terms hereof or any other agreement entered into by the Company and Executive on or subsequent to the date hereof, be payable in accordance with such plan or program.
- (i) <u>Mitigation</u>. In no event shall Executive be obligated to seek other employment by way of mitigation of the amounts payable to Executive under any of the provisions of this Agreement.
- (j) <u>Equitable Relief.</u> Executive expressly agrees that breach of any provision of Sections 6 or 7 of this Agreement would result in irreparable injuries to the Company, that the remedy at law for any such breach will be inadequate and that upon breach of such provisions, the Company, in addition to all other available remedies, shall be entitled as a matter of right to injunctive relief in any court of competent jurisdiction without the necessity of posting bond or proving the actual damage to the Company. If the Company or one of its controlled affiliates shall institute any action or proceeding to enforce any such restrictive covenant, Executive hereby waives the claim or defense that the Company or such controlled affiliate has an adequate remedy at law and agrees not to assert in any such action or proceeding the claim or defense that the Company has an adequate remedy at law. The foregoing shall not prejudice the Company's right to seek any other relief to which it may be entitled.
- (k) <u>Severability</u>. Sections 6(a), 6(b), 6(c), 7(a), 7(b) and 10(i) of this Agreement shall be considered separate and independent from the other sections of this Agreement and no invalidity of

any one of those sections shall affect any other section or provision of this Agreement. However, because it is expressly acknowledged that the pay and benefits provided under this Agreement are provided, at least in part, as consideration for the obligations imposed upon Executive under Sections 6(a), 6(b), 6(c), 7(a) and 7(b), should Executive challenge those obligations or any court of competent jurisdiction determine that any of the provisions under these Sections is unlawful or unenforceable, such that Executive need not honor those provisions, then Executive shall not receive the pay and benefits provided for in this Agreement following termination (or if he has already received severance pay or benefits, Executive shall be required to repay such severance pay and benefits to the Company within ten (10) calendar days of written demand by the Company) if otherwise available to Executive, irrespective of the reason for the end of Executive's employment. Except as set forth in the preceding two sentences, if any provision of this Agreement or the application thereof is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Agreement are declared to be severable.

- (I) <u>No Construction Against Drafter</u>. The parties acknowledge and agree that each party has reviewed and negotiated the terms and provisions of this Agreement and has had the opportunity to contribute to its revision. Accordingly, the rule of construction to the effect that ambiguities are resolved against the drafting party shall not be employed in the interpretation of this Agreement. Rather, the terms of this Agreement shall be construed fairly as to both parties and not in favor or against either party.
- (m) <u>Cooperation</u>. Executive agrees to cooperate with the Company, during the Term and for the two (2) years immediately thereafter, by being reasonably available to testify on behalf of the Company or any controlled affiliate in any action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, and to assist the Company, or any affiliate, in any such action, suit or proceeding, by providing information and meeting and consulting at mutually agreeable times and places with the Board or its representatives or counsel, or representatives or counsel to the Company, or any affiliate, as reasonably requested; <u>provided</u> that such obligation to cooperate does not unreasonably interfere with Executive's business or personal affairs. The Company agrees to reimburse Executive for all reasonable expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) incurred by Executive in connection with his provision of testimony or assistance or other cooperation contemplated by this Section.
- (n) <u>Withholding</u>. The Company and its controlled affiliates may withhold from any amounts payable to Executive hereunder all federal, state, city, foreign or other taxes that the Company may reasonably determine are required to be withheld pursuant to any applicable law or regulation (it being understood that Executive shall be responsible for payment of all taxes in respect of the payments and benefits provided herein).
- (o) <u>Headings</u>. The headings in this Agreement are inserted for convenience of reference only and shall not be a part of or control or affect the meaning of any provision hereof.
- (p) <u>Representations of Executive</u>. Executive represents, warrants and covenants that as of the date hereof and as of the Effective Date Executive commences employment with the Company: (i) Executive has the full right, authority and capacity to enter into this Agreement and perform Executive's obligations hereunder, (ii) Executive is not bound by any agreement that conflicts with or prevents or restricts the full performance of Executive's duties and obligations to the Company

hereunder during or after the Term, and (iii) the execution and delivery of this Agreement shall not result in any breach or violation of, or a default under, any existing obligation, commitment or agreement to which Executive is subject.

- (q) <u>Clawback</u>. The Executive acknowledges that to the extent required by applicable law (including without limitation Section 304 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act and Section 954 of the Dodd Frank Act) or by any applicable award agreement, the Bonus and other incentive compensation shall be subject to any required clawback, forfeiture, recoupment or similar requirement.
- Indemnification. To the maximum extent permitted by law and the Parent's and the Company's governing documents and applicable insurance agreements, the Parent and the Company shall indemnify Executive, hold Executive harmless, and make advances for expenses (including attorneys and costs) to Executive (subject to Executive's providing an undertaking to repay the Parent and the Company, as the case may be, that is acceptable to the Parent or Company, as applicable) with respect to any and all losses, claims, demands, liabilities, costs, damages, expenses (including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses) and causes of action imposed on, incurred by, asserted against or to which Executive may otherwise become subject by reason of or in connection with any act or omission of Executive, including any negligent act or omission, for and on behalf of the Parent or the Company that occurs during Executive's employment with the Company and Parent or in connection with Executive providing cooperation to the Company and/or the Parent as set forth in Section 10(m), that Executive reasonably and in good faith believes is in the furtherance of the interests of the Company and/or the Parent, unless such act or omission constitutes gross negligence or intentional misconduct or is outside of the scope of Executive's authority; provided, however, that this Section 10(r) shall not be construed to grant Executive a right to be indemnified by the Company or the Parent (i) for actions or proceedings brought by the Company or the Parent for breach or anticipated breach of this Agreement by Executive, or (ii) for any action, suit, arbitration or other proceeding (or portion thereof) initiated by Executive, unless authorized or ratified by the Board.
- (s) Permitted Activity. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, Executive shall be permitted to be an investor, director, officer and/or employee of one (1) special purpose acquisition company ("SPAC"). In addition, if during the Non-Competition Period, an opportunity related to the Company's and/or the Parent's business (or which is similar to or competitive with a business of the Company and/or the Parent) is presented to the Executive, whether as a director (in his capacity as a director) or as an employee, then if the Specified Conditions are met, the Executive may pursue such opportunity and be engaged with such activity (whether in connection with the SPAC or any company involved in a business combination with the SPAC or otherwise) and it shall not be deemed a breach of this Agreement (notwithstanding anything contained in Section 6) or the Company's and/or the Parent's corporate guidelines or the Company's and/or the Parent's articles of incorporation or any other agreement. For purposes of this Agreement, "Specified Conditions" means that (i) such opportunity is presented to a committee of independent directors of the Board, (ii) the committee determines not to pursue such opportunity and (iii) the committee consents in writing to the Executive pursuing such opportunity for his own benefit (whether through a SPAC or any company involved in a business combination with the SPAC or otherwise).

Exhibit 10.1 Execution Copy

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date first above written.

SPECTRUM BRANDS HOLDINGS, INC.

By:

Nathan E. Fagre Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

SPECTRUM BRANDS, INC.

By:

Stacey Neu Senior Vice President, Human Resources

EXECUTIVE:

David M. Maura

EXHIBIT A

RELEASE OF CLAIMS ("Release")

1. Release of Claims

In partial consideration of the payments and benefits described in Section 5 of the Employment Agreement (the "Employment Agreement") dated April 25, 2018, between Spectrum Brands, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), Spectrum Brands Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation (including any entity that becomes the successor public holding company of such entity, the "Parent"), and David M. Maura ("Executive"), to which Executive agrees that Executive is not entitled until and unless Executive executes this Release and it becomes effective in accordance with the terms hereof, Executive, for and on behalf of himself and his heirs, successors and assigns, subject to the last sentence of this Section 1, hereby waives and releases any common law, statutory or other complaints, claims, charges or causes of action of any kind whatsoever, both known and unknown, in law or in equity, which Executive ever had, now has or may have against the Company, the Parent, and their shareholders, parents, subsidiaries, controlled affiliates, predecessors, successors, assigns, directors, officers, partners, members, managers, employees, trustees (in their official and individual capacities), employee benefit plans and their administrators and fiduciaries (in their official and individual capacities), representatives or agents, and each of their controlled affiliates, successors and assigns (collectively, the "Releasees"), by reason of facts or omissions which have occurred on or prior to the date that Executive signs this Release, including, without limitation, any complaint, charge or cause of action arising out of Executive's employment or termination of employment (whether under the Employment Agreement or otherwise, including without limitation, any claims for severance or separation pay pursuant to the Employment Agreement), or any term or condition of that employment, or arising under federal, state, local or foreign laws pertaining to employment, including the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 ("ADEA," a law which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age), the Older Workers Benefit Protection Act, the National Labor Relations Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, all as amended, and any other federal, state and local laws relating to discrimination on the basis of age, sex or other protected class, all claims under federal, state or local laws for express or implied breach of contract, wrongful discharge, defamation, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and any related claims for attorneys' fees and costs. Executive further agrees that this Release may be pleaded as a full defense to any action, suit, arbitration or other proceeding covered by the terms hereof which is or may be initiated, prosecuted or maintained by Executive, Executive's descendants, dependents, heirs, executors, administrators or permitted assigns. By signing this Release, Executive acknowledges that Executive intends to waive and release any rights known or unknown that Executive may have against the Releasees under these and any other laws; provided, that Executive does not waive or release claims with respect to (i) any rights he may have to any severance payments or benefits under Section 5 of the Employment Agreement, (ii) any rights set forth in Section 7(e) of the Employment Agreement, and (iii) rights that cannot be released as a matter of law (collectively, the "Unreleased Claims").

2. <u>Proceedings</u>

Executive acknowledges that Executive has not filed any complaint, charge, claim or proceeding against any of the Releasees before any local, state, federal or foreign agency, court or other body (each individually a "Proceeding"). Executive represents that Executive is not aware of any basis on which such a Proceeding could reasonably be instituted. Executive (i) acknowledges that Executive will not initiate or cause to be initiated on his behalf any Proceeding (except with respect to an Unreleased Claim) and will not participate in any Proceeding (except with respect to an Unreleased Claim), in each case, except as required by law; and (ii) waives any right Executive may have to benefit in any manner from any relief (whether monetary or otherwise) arising out of any Proceeding, including any Proceeding conducted by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC"). Further, Executive understands that, by executing this Release, Executive will be limiting the availability of certain remedies that Executive may have against the Company and/or the Parent and limiting also the ability of Executive to pursue certain claims against the Releasees. Notwithstanding the above, nothing in Section 1 of this Release shall prevent Executive from (i) initiating or causing to be initiated on his behalf any complaint, charge, claim or proceeding against the Company before any local, state or federal agency, court or other body challenging the validity of the waiver of his claims under the ADEA contained in Section 1 of this Release (but no other portion of such waiver); or (ii) initiating or participating in an investigation or proceeding conducted by the EEOC.

3. Time to Consider

Executive acknowledges that Executive has been advised that he has twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of this Release to consider all the provisions of this Release and he does hereby knowingly and voluntarily waive said given twenty-one (21) day period. EXECUTIVE FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGES THAT EXECUTIVE HAS READ THIS RELEASE CAREFULLY, HAS BEEN ADVISED BY THE COMPANY TO, AND HAS IN FACT, CONSULTED AN ATTORNEY, AND FULLY UNDERSTANDS THAT BY SIGNING BELOW EXECUTIVE IS GIVING UP CERTAIN RIGHTS WHICH HE MAY HAVE TO SUE OR ASSERT A CLAIM AGAINST ANY OF THE RELEASEES, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1 OF THIS RELEASE AND THE OTHER PROVISIONS HEREOF. EXECUTIVE ACKNOWLEDGES THAT EXECUTIVE HAS NOT BEEN FORCED OR PRESSURED IN ANY MANNER WHATSOEVER TO SIGN THIS RELEASE, AND EXECUTIVE AGREES TO ALL OF ITS TERMS VOLUNTARILY.

4. Revocation

Executive hereby acknowledges and understands that Executive shall have seven (7) days from the date of execution of this Release to revoke this Release (including, without limitation, any and all claims arising under the ADEA) and that neither the Company nor any other person is obligated to provide any benefits to Executive pursuant to Section 5(b)(ii)(A), (B) and (E) of the Employment Agreement until eight (8) days have passed since Executive's signing of this Release without Executive having revoked this Release, in which event the Company shall arrange and/or pay for any such benefits otherwise attributable to said eight- (8) day period, consistent with the terms of the Employment Agreement. If Executive revokes this Release, Executive will be deemed not to have accepted the terms of this Release, and no action will be required of the Company under any section of this Release. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing, the Company acknowledges that it will pay any amounts related to accrued and unused vacation as referenced in Section 5(b)(ii)(C) in accordance with any applicable laws.

5. <u>No Admission</u>

This Release does not constitute an admission of liability or wrongdoing of any kind by Executive, on the one hand, or any of the Releasees, on the other hand.

6. <u>General Provisions</u>

A failure of any of the Releasees to insist on strict compliance with any provision of this Release shall not be deemed a waiver of such provision or any other provision hereof. If any provision of this Release is determined to be so broad as to be unenforceable, such provision shall be interpreted to be only so broad as is enforceable, and in the event that any provision is determined to be entirely unenforceable, such provision shall be deemed severable, such that all other provisions of this Release shall remain valid and binding upon Executive and the Releasees.

7. <u>Governing Law</u>

The validity, interpretations, construction and performance of this Release shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York without giving effect to conflict of laws principles.

below.	IN	WITNES	S W	HEREOF,	, Execu	ıtive h	ias	executed	and	delivered	this	Release	as o	f the	date	written
DATE			-								_		C	avid N	M. Ma	nura
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SEPARATION AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

This SEPARATION AGREEMENT AND RELEASE (the "<u>Agreement</u>") is entered into as of April 25, 2018 by and between SPECTRUM BRANDS, INC., a Delaware corporation, ("<u>Company</u>"), SPECTRUM BRANDS HOLDINGS, INC. (including any entity that becomes the successor public holding company of such entity, the "<u>Parent</u>", and together with the Company ,"<u>Spectrum</u>") and ANDREAS ROUVE' ("<u>Executive</u>").

WHEREAS, Executive has been employed by the Company as Chief Executive Officer and President of Spectrum pursuant to the terms of a March 16, 2015 Employment Agreement, as amended ("Employment Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of the Employment Agreement, the Company has the right to terminate the Employment Agreement by providing the Executive with ninety (90) days' written notice; and

WHEREAS, subject to the terms of the Employment Agreement, the Company will provide Executive with certain severance benefits in exchange for Executive's agreement to comply with certain restrictive covenants and to execute a release of claims in favor of the Company; and

WHEREAS, Executive and the Company (collectively, the "Parties" and each a "Party") now desire and intend to amicably sever the employment relationship between them; and

WHEREAS, the Parties have read and understood the terms of this Agreement and both Parties have been provided with reasonable opportunities to consult with their respective legal counsel prior to entering into this Agreement.

In consideration for the mutual promises and covenants set forth herein, the Parties covenant and agree as follows:

- 1. **Employment Termination**. The Parties have agreed that Executive's employment with the Company pursuant to the Employment Agreement will terminate effective as of April 25, 2018 (the "<u>Termination Date</u>").
 - A. The Parties agree that Executive's employment and any and all titles, positions and appointments Executive holds with the Company and its parent, subsidiaries and affiliates (the "Company Group"), whether as an officer, director, employee, consultant, trustee, committee member, agent or otherwise, are terminated as of the Termination Date, and (i) Executive shall be deemed to have resigned from all such titles, positions and appointments as of the Termination Date, and (ii) Executive agrees promptly to execute any documents reasonably required to effectuate the foregoing.
 - B. Effective as of the Termination Date, Executive shall have no authority to act on behalf of any member of the Company Group (and shall not hold himself out as having such authority), enter into any agreement or incur any obligations on behalf of any member of the Company Group, commit any member

of the Company Group in any manner or otherwise act in an executive or other decision-making capacity with respect to any member of the Company Group. As of the Termination Date, Executive shall not report to the offices, or attend any premises, of the Company or any member of the Company Group.

- C. Executive will be paid One Hundred Eighty-Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$183,750.00) (in the aggregate) in lieu of ninety (90) days' notice of termination under the Employment Agreement, such notice payments to be paid periodically in accordance with the regular payroll practices of the Company during the ninety (90) day notice period following the Termination Date.
- D. Payment for accrued but unused vacation of nine (9) days as of the Termination Date, with such payment being made on the first regularly scheduled payroll date occurring on or following the Termination Date.
- 2. **Severance Pay and Benefits.** In consideration for Executive's entering into this Agreement, including without limitation, the covenants contained in Sections 7 and 8 of this Agreement, Executive shall be entitled to the payments and benefits set forth in Sections 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G and 2H below (the "Severance Benefits"):
 - A. <u>Severance</u>. Severance pay equal to (i) One Million One Hundred Two Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$1,102,750.00) (in the aggregate), representing one and one-half (1 ½) times Executive's annual Base Salary, and (ii) Nine Hundred Eighteen Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$918,750.00) (in the aggregate) equal to the Executive's bonus (at Target Level) under the Company's Management Incentive Plan, in each case, to be paid in equal installments in accordance with the Company's regular payroll practices, over a period of eighteen (18) months commencing as of the expiration of the ninety (90) day notice period following the Termination Date (such date, the "Severance Period").
 - B. <u>2018 MIP Bonus</u>. The annual bonus earned, if any, by Executive pursuant to the Company's 2018 Management Incentive Plan based on actual performance results, will be paid in a lump sum (or at the election of the Compensation Committee of Parent, in Parent common stock) at substantially the same time as fiscal 2018 bonuses are paid to other executives of the Company.

C. Continuation of Health and Welfare Benefits.

(i) The Company will provide continuation medical, dental, vision and prescription drug benefits ("Continuation Benefits") until the end of the Severance Period substantially similar to those provided to the Executive and his dependents by the Company immediately prior to the Termination Date, at no greater cost to the Executive or the Company than the cost to the Executive and the Company immediately prior to such date, *provided, however*, that such continuation coverage shall end earlier upon

Executive's becoming eligible for comparable coverage under another employer's benefit plans;

- (ii) Executive's Executive Life Insurance benefit will be continued at the Company's expense until the end of the Severance Period.
- (iii) In addition, if applicable, the Company will pay to Executive, between January 1 and March 31 of the year following the year in which the Continuation Benefits become includible in Executive's income for tax purposes, an additional amount to make Executive whole for the amount of such tax liability and the additional amount (the "Additional Payment"). The Company will not be liable for any excise, penalty or other like taxes or any interest with respect to the payment of taxes. The amount of the Additional Payment will be determined by an accounting firm chosen by the Company using any financial information reasonably requested of Executive to calculate the amount of the Additional Payment.
- D. <u>Relocation Benefits</u>. In full and final satisfaction of any and all Company obligations, under the Employment Agreement or otherwise, to pay for relocation costs for Executive and his dependents to a U.S. or foreign location as determined by Executive, the Company will pay Executive a lump sum payment in the gross amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$500,000), net of applicable taxes, on or prior to December 31, 2018 (the "<u>Relocation Payment</u>").
- E. <u>Vehicle</u>. Executive will be permitted to continue utilizing his Company-subsidized leased vehicle during the ninety (90) day notice period and for twelve (12) months following the expiration of such period. After the twelve (12) month period expires, Executive may purchase the Company-subsidized leased vehicle under the terms provided in the Employment Agreement and as specified in writing to the Executive by the Company.
- F. Accrued Salary and Un-Reimbursed Business Expenses. The Company will pay Executive (i) any annual Base Salary earned but unpaid through the Termination Date, and (ii) reimbursement for all un-reimbursed business expenses properly incurred by Executive in accordance with Company policy prior to the Termination Date and not yet reimbursed by the Company; provided, however, that Executive must submit to the Company, within thirty (30) days after the Termination Date, any outstanding expense reports within his possession, and Executive shall not receive reimbursement in respect of any expense reports submitted after such date.
- G. <u>Accrued Benefits under Plans</u>. Executive will be entitled to all benefits accrued up to the Termination Date, to the extent vested, under all employee benefit plans of the Company Group in which Executive participates (except for any plan that provides for bonus, severance, separation pay or termination benefits) in accordance with the terms of such plans and any amounts required to be paid pursuant to applicable law. The Company will continue contributions under the pension agreement between VARTA Geratebatteries

GMBH and the Executive, dated May 17, 1989 including the supplement of July 1, 1999 and will take such actions and make such contributions such that the pension entitlement shall be fully vested.

- H. <u>Tax Preparation Assistance</u>. Executive will be eligible for payment of a stipend for professional fees incurred in connection with the advice and filing of his 2018 income taxes in accordance with the Company's policies.
- I. <u>Severance Terms</u>. Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the payments and benefits described in Sections 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G and 2H above are subject to (i) Executive's execution of this Agreement within fifty-five (55) days following the Termination Date and not revoking this Agreement before expiration of the seven (7) day revocation period set forth in Section 9E of this Agreement, and (ii) Executive's continued compliance with the covenants as set forth in Sections 7 and 8 of this Agreement.
 - (i) Executive acknowledges that, pursuant to this Agreement, he is receiving consideration in addition to any amounts to which he would have otherwise been entitled but for this Agreement.
 - (ii) For the avoidance of doubt, the Severance Benefits described in this Section 2 are not intended to result in any duplication of any payments or benefits described in the Employment Agreement or any compensation or benefits plans, policies, programs, agreements or arrangements of the Company.
 - (iii) Subject to Executive's compliance with Section 8 of this Agreement, the obligations of the Company under this Agreement shall not be affected by Executive's receipt of compensation and benefits from another employer in the event that the Executive accepts new employment following the Termination Date, and Executive shall not be obligated to seek other employment or take any other action by way of mitigation of the amounts payable to Executive under any of the provisions of this Agreement.
 - (iv) The obligations of the Company are not affected by Executive's death or disability.
- J. <u>Tax Consequences</u>. The Parties intend that any amounts payable hereunder that could constitute "deferred compensation" within the meaning of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended ("<u>Section 409A</u>") will be compliant with or exempt from Section 409A. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company shall have no obligation to indemnify or otherwise hold Executive (or any beneficiary) harmless from any or all of such taxes or penalties. For purposes of Section 409A, each of the payments that may be made under this Agreement are designated as separate payments. Executive acknowledges that since Executive is a "specified employee" (within the meaning of Code section 409A) at the time of the Executive's separation from service, the payment of any amount

under this Agreement that is considered deferred compensation subject to 409A and is to be paid on account of Executive's separation from service shall be deferred, as required by Code section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i), for six (6) months after Executive's separation from service or, if earlier, Executive's death (the "409A Deferral Period"). Any payments that otherwise would have been made during the 409A Deferral Period shall be paid in a lump sum on the date after the 409A Deferral Period expires, and the balance of any Severance payments shall be made as scheduled.

- (i) Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, any payment or benefit under this Agreement or otherwise that is exempt from Section 409A pursuant to Treasury Regulation § 1.409A-1(b)(9)(v)(A) or (C) (relating to certain reimbursements and in-kind benefits) shall be paid or provided to Executive only to the extent that the expenses are not incurred, or the benefits are not provided, beyond the last day of the second calendar year following the calendar year in which Executive's "separation from service" occurs; and provided further that such expenses are reimbursed no later than the last day of the third calendar year following the calendar year in which Executive's "separation from service" occurs.
- (ii) To the extent any indemnification payment, expense reimbursement, or the provision of any in-kind benefit is determined to be subject to Section 409A (and not exempt pursuant to the prior sentence or otherwise), the amount of any such indemnification payment or expenses eligible for reimbursement, or the provision of any in-kind benefit, in one calendar year shall not affect the indemnification payment or provision of in-kind benefits or expenses eligible for reimbursement in any other calendar year (except for any life-time or other aggregate limitation applicable to medical expenses), and in no event shall any indemnification payment or expenses be reimbursed after the last day of the calendar year following the calendar year in which Executive incurred such indemnification payment or expenses, and in no event shall any right to indemnification payment or reimbursement or the provision of any in-kind benefit be subject to liquidation or exchange for another benefit.
- 3. **Full Satisfaction.** Executive acknowledges and agrees that, except as expressly provided in this Agreement, (i) Executive is not entitled to any other compensation or benefits from the Company or any member of the Company Group (including without limitation any severance or termination compensation or benefits) and (ii) as of and after the Termination Date, Executive shall no longer participate in, accrue service credit or have contributions made on his behalf under any employee benefit plan sponsored by any member of the Company Group in respect of periods commencing on and following the Termination Date, including without limitation, any plan which is intended to qualify under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (a "Qualified Plan"); provided, however, that nothing in this Agreement shall constitute a waiver by Executive of his rights to vested benefits, if any, under any Qualified Plan or under any Company Group health plan or to any other benefits to which

he may be entitled under applicable law in respect of his services to any member of the Company Group prior to the Termination Date.

- 4. **Equity Awards.** The Parties acknowledge that as of the Termination Date, subject to this Agreement becoming effective and irrevocable, Executive will vest in 9,273 shares pursuant to the Executive's 2017 Equity Incentive Plan Award. For the avoidance of doubt, Executive acknowledges that he has no entitlements to the fiscal year 2018 equity compensation programs and S3B Award program participation is forfeited in its entirety. The Parties agree that there are no other equity awards, other than those specified above, to which Executive is or could be entitled to receive as of the Termination Date.
- 5. Release of Claims. Executive, on behalf of himself, his spouse, dependents, heirs, attorneys, successors and assigns, hereby releases, holds harmless and forever discharges the Released Parties from any and all claims, damages, fees, costs or other equitable, legal, statutory or common law relief for any causes of action, obligations, contracts, torts, claims, costs, penalties, fines, liabilities, attorneys' fees, demands or suits, of whatever kind or character, known or unknown, fixed or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, whether asserted or unasserted, arising out of or related to his prior employment with the Company, his Employment Agreement, his separation from employment with the Company, any policies or agreements governing terms of his employment, and any acts or omissions by the Company or any of the Company's current and former officers, directors, shareholders, principals, attorneys, agents, Executives, affiliates, parent companies, subsidiaries, successors and assigns, at any time up through the Effective Date of this Agreement ("Claims"). This release includes, but is not limited to, a waiver, discharge and release by the Executive with respect to any damages or relief of whatever nature or description, including, but not limited to, compensatory and punitive damages and equitable forms of relief, as well as any claim for attorneys' fees or costs, which may arise from any of the Claims waived, discharged or released.
 - A. <u>Claims Released</u>. The Claims released by Executive under this paragraph include all known and unknown claims, promises, causes of action, grievances, or similar rights of any type that Executive had or presently may have, with respect to any of the Released Parties. Executive acknowledges that the Claims released under this section might arise under many different foreign, domestic, national, state, or local laws (including statutes, regulations, other administrative guidance, and common law doctrines), including, but not limited to, the following:
 - (i) Claims for breach of contract (including, but not limited to, any breach of the Employment Agreement), whether express, implied or implied-infact, promissory estoppel, wrongful discharge, retaliatory discharge, interference with contractual relations or prospective economic advantage or violation of any duties of good faith and fair dealing;
 - (ii) Claims for salary, bonus compensation, incentive compensation, commissions, deferred compensation, stock compensation, premium payments, overtime compensation, vacation, paid time off, sick leave, family leave, medical leave, fringe benefits or remuneration of any

kind arising out of or relating to his employment by the Company up through the Termination Date;

- (iii) Any and all Claims under or pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, as amended, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the Equal Pay Act, United States Presidential Executive Orders 11246 and 11375, 42 U.S.C. § 1981, as amended, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, and the Fair Labor Standards Act, as well as any other federal, state or local law, statute, ordinance, rule, regulation or executive order relating to employment, wages and hours and/or discrimination in employment, and/or any Claims to attorneys' fees or costs under such statutes and laws;
- (iv) Any and all Claims under the Wisconsin Fair Employment Act, Sections 109.03, 109.07, 109.075 and 109.09 of the Wisconsin Statutes, and any other Claims under Section 109 of Wisconsin Statutes, state or local family and/or medical leave laws, as well as any other state or local law, statute, ordinance, rule, regulation or executive order relating to employment and/or discrimination in employment, and/or any Claims to attorneys' fees or costs under such statutes and laws;
- (v) Claims for intentional torts, negligence, negligent or intentional infliction of emotional distress, personal, emotional or physical injury, fraud, defamation, libel, slander, misrepresentation, violation of public policy, invasion of privacy, or any other statutory or common law tort theory of recovery; and
- (vi) Claims arising under the Executive Retirement Income Security Act of 1978 ("ERISA"), or pertaining to ERISA-regulated benefits, including any claims for severance pay, welfare benefits, unvested retirement benefits or other remuneration or benefits of any kind or character.
- B. *Exclusion for Certain Claims*. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Parties agree that the release in this Section 5 does not apply to any unpaid salary, unused vacation, unreimbursed business expenses, notice pay, Continuation Benefits, Relocation Payment, or any Claims arising after the date Executive signs this Agreement, nor shall anything herein prevent Executive from instituting any action to enforce the terms of this Agreement. The Parties further agree that the release in this Section 5 does not apply to any indemnification rights that Executive may have has an officer or director under any Company Group by-laws, insurance policies or applicable law or any claims that may not, as a matter of law, be released. In addition, the Parties agree that nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the Executive from enforcing rights, if any, under ERISA to recover any vested benefits.

- C. <u>Unknown Claims</u>. Executive acknowledges that he is releasing Claims that he may not know about, and that he does so with knowing and voluntary intent. Executive expressly waives all rights that he may have under any law that is intended to protect his from waiving unknown Claims. Executive further acknowledges that he understands the significance of doing so.
- D. *Governmental Investigations*. Notwithstanding any provision in any agreements on confidentiality, trade secrets or inventions, employment or severance agreements, or any other agreement that Executive may have entered into with the Company on or prior to the Effective Date of this Agreement (collectively, the "Confidentiality Agreements"), nothing contained in this Agreement or the Confidentiality Agreements (i) prohibits Executive from cooperating with or reporting to the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") possible violations of any law or regulations of the SEC, (ii) prohibits Executive from cooperating with or making other disclosures to the staff of the SEC that are protected under the whistleblower provisions of any federal securities laws or regulations, or (iii) limits Executive's right to receive an award for information provided to the SEC staff in accordance with such laws and regulations. In addition, nothing in this Agreement prohibits Executive from filing a charge, cooperating with or reporting to any federal, state or local government agency (including without limitation the United States Department of Labor, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the SEC, the Department of Justice and/or the National Labor Relations Board). However, Executive understands and agrees that he is waiving the right to any monetary recovery in connection with any complaint or charge that Executive may file with an administrative agency, except with respect to any monetary recovery under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 or any laws or regulations enforced by the SEC. Further, Executive does not need prior authorization from Spectrum, or any of its parent companies, subsidiaries or affiliates, to engage in such cooperation, reports communications or disclosures, and Executive is not required to notify the Company if he engages in any such cooperation, reports, communications or disclosures.
- E. *Released Parties*. The "Released Parties" shall include Spectrum Brands, Inc., and all of its Parent Companies, Subsidiaries and Affiliates and, with respect to each of them, their predecessors and successors; and, with respect to each such entity, all of its past, present, and future Executives, officers, directors, managers, stockholders, partners, members, owners, representatives, assigns, attorneys, agents, insurers, Executive benefit programs (and the trustees, administrators, fiduciaries, and insurers of such programs), and any other persons acting by, through, under or in concert with any of the persons or entities listed in this subsection, and their successors.
- 6. **Return of Company Property; Use of Company's Physical Property.** Upon the Termination Date (or such earlier date requested by the Company in writing), Executive shall return (and shall not retain) to the Company all originals and copies of papers, notes and documents (in any medium, including computer disks), whether property of any member of the Company Group or not, prepared, received or obtained by Executive

during the course of, and in connection with, his employment with the Company or any member of the Company Group, and all equipment and property of any member of the Company Group which may be in Executive's possession or under his control, whether at the Company's offices, Executive's home or elsewhere, including all such papers, work papers, notes, documents and equipment in the possession of Executive. Executive agrees that he and his family shall not retain copies of any such papers, work papers, notes and documents. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Executive may retain copies of any employment, compensation, benefits or shareholders agreements between Executive and the Company, this Agreement and any employee benefit plan materials distributed generally to participants of any such plan by the Company or any member of the Company Group.

7. Non Disparagement; Cooperation.

A. <u>Nondisparagement</u>. Executive shall at no time, whether in writing or orally, malign, denigrate or disparage the Company or any member of the Company Group, or any of their respective predecessors and successors, or any of the current or former directors, officers, employees, shareholders, partners, members, agents or representatives of any of the foregoing, with respect to any of their respective past or present activities, or otherwise publish (whether in writing or orally) statements that tend to portray any of the aforementioned parties in an unfavorable light. Nothing contained in the preceding sentence shall (or shall be deemed) to prevent or impair Executive from testifying, to the extent that Executive reasonably believes such testimony to be true, in any legal or administrative proceeding if such testimony is compelled or required.

B. <u>Cooperation</u>. Executive shall continue to make himself available at reasonable times, so as not to unreasonably interfere with his ongoing business activities, to the Company Group and to advise the Company Group, at their request, about disputes with third parties as to which Executive has knowledge, and Executive agrees to cooperate fully with the Company Group in connection with litigation, arbitration and similar proceedings (collectively "<u>Dispute Proceedings</u>") and to provide testimony with respect to Executive's knowledge in any such Dispute Proceedings involving the Company or any member of the Company Group, in all cases without additional compensation or consideration from the Company.

8. Nondisclosure; Non-Compete; Non-Solicitation; Confidentiality

A. <u>Disclosure of this Agreement</u>. The Parties agree and understand that this Agreement may be publicly disclosed by the Company as required for SEC or other regulatory disclosure requirements.

B. Competition, Non-Solicitation and Confidentiality.

(i) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the covenants and other provisions set forth in Sections 6 and 7 of the Employment Agreement that expressly survive termination of Executive's

employment (the "<u>Post Termination Covenants</u>") shall survive the Termination Date and be effective for the periods described therein and are hereby incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

- (ii) Executive understands that the Post Employment Covenants may limit Executive's ability to earn a livelihood in a business similar to the business of the Company, but Executive nevertheless agrees and hereby acknowledges that (A) such provisions do not impose a greater restraint than is necessary to protect the goodwill or other business interests of the Company, (B) such provisions contain reasonable limitations as to time and scope of activity to be restrained, (C) such provisions are not harmful to the general public, and (D) such provisions are not unduly burdensome to Executive in light of the substantial payments that Executive will receive.
- (iii) It is expressly understood and agreed that, although Executive and the Company consider Post Employment Covenants to be reasonable, if a judicial determination is made by a court of competent jurisdiction that the time or territory or any of the Post Employment Covenants or restriction contained elsewhere in this Agreement is an unenforceable restriction against Executive, the provisions of the Agreement shall not be rendered void but shall be deemed amended to apply as to such maximum time and territory and to such maximum extent as such court may judicially determine or indicate to be enforceable. Alternatively, if any court of competent jurisdiction finds that any restriction contained in this Agreement is unenforceable, and such restriction cannot be amended so as to make it enforceable, such finding shall not affect the enforceability of any of the other restrictions contained herein.

9. **Miscellaneous.**

- A. <u>Entire Agreement</u>. Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, this Agreement is the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and contains all agreements, whether written, oral, express or implied, between the Parties relating thereto and supersedes and extinguishes all other agreements relating thereto, whether written, oral, express or implied, between the Parties; *provided, however*, that no rights or obligations established under any such superseded agreement and specifically preserved by this Agreement are extinguished. Other than this Agreement, and as otherwise explicitly stated herein, there are no agreements of any nature whatsoever between Executive and the Company that survive the execution and delivery of this Agreement by the Parties
- B. <u>Non-admission</u>. Nothing contained in the Agreement shall be deemed or construed as an admission of wrongdoing or liability on the part of Executive or on the part of any of the Released Parties.

- C. <u>Voluntary Agreement</u>. Prior to execution of this Agreement, Executive was advised by the Company of Executive's right to seek independent advice from an attorney of Executive's own selection regarding this Agreement. Executive acknowledges that Executive has entered into this Agreement knowingly and voluntarily and with full knowledge and understanding of the provisions of this Agreement after being given the opportunity to consult with counsel. Executive further represents that in entering into this Agreement, Executive is not relying on any statements or representations made by any of the Company's directors, officers, employees or agents which are not expressly set forth herein, and that Executive is relying only upon Executive's own judgment and any advice provided by Executive's attorney.
- D. *Time to Consider*. Executive acknowledges that he has been advised that he has fifty-five (55) days from the Termination Date to consider all the provisions of this Agreement and that, to the extent that he signs this Agreement prior to the expiration of the fifty-five (55) day period, he knowingly and voluntarily waives any additional time to consider this Agreement. EXECUTIVE FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGES THAT EXECUTIVE HAS READ THIS RELEASE CAREFULLY, HAS BEEN ADVISED BY THE COMPANY TO CONSULT AN ATTORNEY, AND FULLY UNDERSTANDS THAT BY SIGNING BELOW EXECUTIVE IS GIVING UP CERTAIN RIGHTS WHICH HE MAY HAVE TO SUE OR ASSERT A CLAIM AGAINST ANY OF THE RELEASED PARTIES, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 5(E) OF THIS AGREEMENT AND THE OTHER PROVISIONS HEREOF. EXECUTIVE ACKNOWLEDGES THAT EXECUTIVE HAS NOT BEEN FORCED OR PRESSURED IN ANY MANNER WHATSOEVER TO SIGN THIS AGREEMENT, AND EXECUTIVE AGREES TO ALL OF ITS TERMS VOLUNTARILY.
- E. *Revocation*. Executive hereby acknowledges and understands that, after signing this Agreement, Executive shall have seven (7) days from the date of signing to revoke this Agreement (including, without limitation, any and all claims arising under the ADEA) and that neither the Company nor any other person is obligated to provide any benefits to Executive pursuant to Sections 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G and 2H of this Agreement until eight (8) days have passed since Executive's signing of this Agreement without Executive having revoked this Agreement, in which event the Company shall arrange and/or pay the Severance Benefits consistent with the terms of the Agreement (the "Effective Date"). If Executive revokes this Agreement, Executive will be deemed not to have accepted the terms of this Agreement, and no action will be required of the Company under any section of this Agreement.
- F. <u>Successors</u>. The Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties, their respective heirs, successors and assigns.
- G. <u>Arbitration</u>. Any dispute arising out of or relating to the interpretation, application or enforcement of this Agreement will be resolved by final and binding arbitration in accordance with the then existing Employment

Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA"), provided, however, that nothing in this Agreement precludes any Party from filing litigation in any court of competent jurisdiction seeking injunctive relief to compel the arbitration of any dispute or to maintain the status quo pending arbitration of any dispute covered by this Agreement. The Parties will agree upon one arbitrator, who shall be an individual skilled in the legal and business aspects of the subject matter of this Agreement and of the dispute. If the Parties cannot agree upon one arbitrator, an arbitrator shall be selected by the parties through the arbitrator selection procedures established by the AAA. This arbitration provision constitutes a waiver of any right to a jury trial and relates to the resolution of all claims arising out of, relating to, or in connection with this Agreement, as well as the interpretation, validity, construction, performance, breach, or termination of this Agreement. Any arbitration under this Agreement will be held in Madison, Wisconsin or such other location as may be mutually agreed by the Parties.

H. Governing Law. THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE APPLICABLE TO AGREEMENTS MADE AND TO BE WHOLLY PERFORMED WITHIN THAT STATE, WITHOUT REGARD TO ITS CONFLICT OF LAWS PROVISIONS OR THE CONFLICT OF LAWS PROVISIONS OF ANY OTHER JURISDICTION WHICH WOULD CAUSE THE APPLICATION OF ANY LAW OTHER THAN THAT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE. Each party to this Agreement irrevocably agrees for the exclusive benefit of the other that any and all suits, actions or proceedings relating to this Agreement (collectively, "Actions" and, individually, an "Action"), including without limitation an Action to compel arbitration of any dispute under Section 9G of this Agreement, must be filed in either the courts of the State of Delaware or the federal District Courts sitting in Wilmington, Delaware (collectively, the "Chosen Courts") and that the Chosen Courts shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine or settle any such Action and that any such Actions may be brought in the Chosen Courts. Each Party irrevocably waives any objection that it may have now or hereafter to the laying of the venue of any Actions in the Chosen Courts and any claim that any Actions have been brought in an inconvenient forum and further irrevocably agrees that a judgment in any Action brought in the Chosen Courts shall be conclusive and binding upon it and may be enforced in the courts of any other jurisdiction.

I. <u>Severability</u>. In the event that any provision of this Agreement is determined to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be unaffected and shall remain in full force and effect. In addition, if any provision is determined to be invalid or unenforceable due to its duration and/or scope, the duration and/or scope of such provision, as the case may be, shall be reduced, such reduction shall be to the smallest extent necessary to comply with applicable law, and such provision shall be enforceable, in its reduced form, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law.

- J. <u>Waiver</u>. A failure of any of the Released Parties to insist on strict compliance with any provision of this Agreement shall not be deemed a waiver of such provision or any other provision of this Agreement.
- K. <u>Taxes</u>. Executive shall be responsible for the payment of any and all required federal, state, local and foreign taxes incurred, or to be incurred, in connection with any amounts payable to Executive under this Agreement. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, the Company or any member of the Company Group, as applicable, may withhold from all amounts payable under this Agreement all federal, state, local and foreign taxes that are required to be withheld pursuant to any applicable laws and regulations.
- L. <u>Counterparts</u>. The Agreement may be executed by one or more of the Parties hereto on any number of separate counterparts and all such counterparts shall be deemed to be one and the same instrument. Each party hereto confirms that any facsimile copy of such Party's executed counterpart of the Agreement (or its signature page thereof) shall be deemed to be an executed original thereof.
- M. <u>D&O Insurance</u>. To the knowledge of the Company, currently there is no basis for any claims against Executive or any of the Released Parties based upon any acts or omissions of Executive during the term of his employment as an officer of the Company and/or his service as a director of the Parent and the Company. Following the Termination Date, Executive will continue to be entitled to indemnification to the maximum extent provided by law and the Company's and Parent's governing documents and applicable insurance agreements, for claims, causes of action, litigation (and reasonable litigation expenses), losses, damages and costs imposed on, asserted against, or incurred by Executive in connection with any act or omission of Executive for an on behalf of the Company or the Parent during his employment with the Company and Parent and/or his service as a director of the Parent and the Company that Executive reasonably and in good faith believed was in the furtherance of the interests of the Company and the Parent, unless such act or omission constituted gross negligence or intentional misconduct or was outside the scope of the Executive's authority, but not for any action, suit, arbitration or other proceeding (or portion thereof) initiated by Executive, unless authorized by the Board of Directors of the Parent. Such indemnification shall be covered by the terms of the Company's policies of insurance for directors and officers of the Company and the Parent in effect from time to time (the "D&O Insurance").

Presented By:			
Name:		Date Delivered:	
Executive:		Date Signed:	
Signature:			
Printed Name:	Andreas Rouve'		
Company:		Date Signed:	
Signature:			
Printed Name:			
Return Signed A	greement to:		
Nathan Fa	agre, Esq.		
General C			
	Brands, Inc.		
3001 Dem	-		
Middleton	, WI 53562		