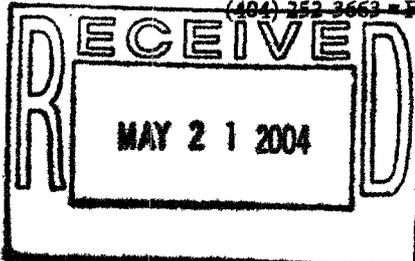


**INTERNATIONAL FORMULA COUNCIL**

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November 14, 2003

Dr. Benson M. Silverman (HFS-850)
Medical Officer, Room 4A031
Division of Standards and Labeling Regulations
Office of Nutritional Products, Labeling and Dietary Supplements
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
5100 Paint Branch Parkway
College Park, MD 20740

Re: Docket No. 95N-0309

Dear Dr. Silverman:

In its comments to the referenced docket dated August 26, 2003 ("2003 Comments"), the International Formula Council ("IFC") stated that its 2003 Comments were intended to "replace" its comments on the same docket filed by the IFC in December 1996 ("1996 Comments"). You subsequently called to inquire whether the IFC was withdrawing the 1996 Comments.

We understand that the 1996 Comments and the 2003 Comments are both part of the administrative record, and in the absence of the IFC "withdrawing" its 1996 Comments, both would have to be considered by FDA in the development of a final rule. Because its 2003 Comments include the IFC's comments on the proposed rule, and either duplicate or update elements of its 1996 Comments, the FDA need only consider the IFC's 2003 Comments in subsequent rulemaking on this docket. Please, therefore, consider its 1996 Comments withdrawn.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert C. Gefardi".

Robert C. Gefardi
President

95N-0309

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