



April 5, 2018

Mr. Rolf Sundwall and Ms. Vanessa Robertson
United States Securities and Exchange Commission
Division of Corporation Finance
100 F Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20549-7010

Re: Bio-Techne Corporation
Form 10-K for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017
Filed September 7, 2017
Respond Dated February 23, 2018
File No. 000-17272

Dear Mr. Sundwall and Ms. Robertson:

This letter is written in response to the Staff's comment letter dated March 22, 2018 on the Form 10-K of Bio-Techne Corporation ("the Company", "we" or "our") for the year ended June 30, 2017, and our response to the comment letter we received on February 12, 2018 dated February 23, 2018. For ease of reference, the numbered responses correspond to the paragraphs as numbered within the comment letter. We have also included the Staff's comment along with our response to assist in the review process.

Form 10-K for the period ended June 30, 2017
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
Note 11. Segment Information, page 57

- 1. Refer to your response to comment two. Please explain how the Advanced Cell Diagnostics product line is similar in nature to the proteins, antibodies, immunoassays and small molecules products. It appears that the primary product portfolio in the ACD business, genomic in situ hybridization, is not similar to your core biotechnology business. For example, it appears the opportunities for growth in the ACD product line are greater than for the other product lines. You disclose on page 17 of the Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended December 31, 2017, that the ACD product category contributed substantially, with over 40% growth for the quarter and six months ended December 31, 2017 that was driven by the rapid research market adoption of your RNA-ISH technology. In addition, please address the disclosure on page 22 of the 10-K that in fiscal 2017, the biggest impact to gross margin as compared to fiscal 2016, was the change in product mix associated with the acquisition of ACD. Please confirm whether the product lines in the Biotechnology segment have similar gross margins. Finally, while you state that you are unable to provide the net sales for each of your five product lines within the biotechnology segment, it appears based on your disclosure of the impact of the ACD product categories that you are able to make some reasonable estimates. In this regard, provide us your estimate of the ACD product categories as a percentage of your consolidated net sales for the six months ended December 31, 2017.*
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Response

The acquisition of Advanced Cell Diagnostics (ACD) brought the *in situ* genomic hybridization to our portfolio of products. Therefore, we needed to assess if the ACD product line was similar to our existing core biotechnology business which we previously determined could be aggregated. The terms of our purchase of ACD included contingent consideration payments based on future performance which extended in to fiscal year 2018. Therefore, as of June 30, 2017 the ACD business had not been fully integrated in to the core biotechnology business processes and financial information remained stand alone in the general ledger systems we acquired such that specific revenue and gross margin information was available for this product line and was used as part of our assessment.

All of our products offered by ACD and the legacy biotechnology business are consumables used for conducting laboratory experiments by both industry and academic scientists within the biotechnology and biomedical life science fields. Specifically, our customers are focused on understanding the biological processes for a variety of diseases and pathological conditions such as cancer, autoimmunity, diabetes, hypertension, obesity, inflammation, neurological disorders, and kidney failure. A critical piece of their research is understanding the underlying cell behavior at both the protein and genetic levels within the cell. Our protein, antibodies, immunoassays, and small molecules products in the legacy biotechnology business are tools to help our customers analyze the protein component of cells, and the ACD technology allows our customers to analyze the genetic changes within cells. When used together, our customers have a more complete set of tools to study normal and abnormal cell behavior. Further the production of ACD products requires skilled labor including trained chemists and biologists like our legacy bio-technology business and uses the same or similar raw materials, and has similar degrees of labor intensiveness.

On page 22 of our Form 10-K, we disclose that management uses adjusted results to monitor and evaluate performance of the Company's three business segments. Therefore, our assessment also focused on a comparison of adjusted gross margins. Adjusted gross margins exclude reversal of acquired inventory fair value step-up and the amortization of acquired technology. For the year ended June 30, 2017 the adjusted gross margin of our legacy bio-technology business was 80.7% compared to the adjusted gross margin on the Advanced Cell Diagnostics (ACD) business of 79.1% and we expect these margins will continue to be similar. We believe these similar gross margins further support the aggregation of these products for disclosure.

As noted by the staff, on page 22 of our Form 10-K, we disclosed that in fiscal 2017 the biggest impact to gross margin as compared to fiscal 2016, was the change in product mix associated with the acquisition of ACD. We acknowledge that this disclosure was not as clear as it could have been. Our reference to product mix means that the amount of reversal of the acquired inventory fair value step-up and amortization of acquired technology included in cost of goods sold was higher in fiscal 2017 due to the addition of the ACD business. Thus the acquisition of ACD had a negative impact on our consolidated gross margin. The table on page 22 reconciling consolidated gross margin percentage to adjusted gross margin percentages summarizes the impact of these acquisition related costs for our investors.

In addition to margins, we also considered revenue growth opportunities. As ACD was an early stage company when it was acquired, significant growth was expected. There has been significant growth since the time of the acquisition, and we anticipate that we will continue see higher growth rates compared to our core biotechnology business in the near term. However, as of June 30, 2017, we concluded that over the long-term, the revenue growth rates for the current ACD products will be similar to the legacy biotechnology business within five to ten years. We continually reassess this conclusion as we look at strategic opportunities to better support our businesses and facilitate global growth.

Finally, we considered if there were any regulatory differences with the ACD products. Like our legacy biotechnology products, ACD products are initially classified as research use only (RUO) and in order to be used in a clinical diagnostics application certain Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approvals must be obtained.

For the six-month period ended December 31, 2017, the ACD business represented 8% of our consolidated revenue and predominately relates to the sales of consumables described above. A portion of the ACD revenue for this period relates to services performed by ACD. ACD recognizes service revenue when we perform tests using our products for the customer rather than the customer performing the tests themselves, or when we develop custom products for the customer. However, the ACD services revenue is less 2% of consolidated revenue and is considered immaterial for separate disclosure at this time.

Based on consideration of the factors described above, we believe that the products and services within the Bio-technology segment are appropriately combined for purposes of the disclosure requirements prescribed by ASC 280-10-50-40. To further clarify this determination for our investors we intend to include an additional disclosure within segment footnote of our future Form 10-K filings. Specifically, we will state that the revenues from external customers within each of our segments represent a similar group of products.

We acknowledge that we are responsible for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing, that Staff comments or changes to disclosure in response to Staff comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing, and that we may not assert Staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

On behalf of the company, I thank you for your consideration of our responses. Should the Staff have further questions or comments or need any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

/s/ James T. Hippel
James T. Hippel
Chief Financial Officer