UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q (Mark One) |X| Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 For the quarterly period ended: 09/30/03 _| Transition Report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for the transition period from _____ to _ Commission file number: 0-22818 THE HAIN CELESTIAL GROUP, INC. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter) Delaware 22-3240619 (State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer identification No.) incorporation or organization) 58 South Service Road, Melville, New York 11747 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code) Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (631) 730-2200 Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirement for the past 90 days. Yes Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes X No Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date. 34,236,021 shares of Common Stock \$.01 par value, as of October 30, 2003. THE HAIN CELESTIAL GROUP, INC. TNDFX Part T Financial Information Item 1. Financial Statements Consolidated Balance Sheets - September 30, 2003 (unaudited) and June 30, 2003 2 Consolidated Statements of Income -Three Months ended September 30, 2003 and 2003 (unaudited) Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity Three months ended September 30, 2003 (unaudited) 4 Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows -Three months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002 (unaudited) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements 6-10 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations 11-15 Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk 16

16

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Items 1 through 5 are not applicable	
Item 6 - Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K	16
Signatures	17

Part II Other Information

1

ASSETS (Unaudited)	(NOLE)
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents \$ 12,879 \$ Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful	•
accounts of \$1,840 and \$1,748 74,895	61,215
Inventories 69,068	66,444
Recoverable income taxes, net	223
Deferred income taxes 3,171 Other current assets 7,019	3,171
Other current assets 7,019	7,671
Total current assets 167,673	149,708
Property, plant and equipment, net of accumulated	
depreciation and amortization of \$33,849 and \$31,555 67,425	68.665
depreciation and amortization of \$33,849 and \$31,555 67,425 Goodwill 298,971	296,508
Trademarks and other intangible assets, net of	,
	55,975
accumulated amortization of \$7,576 and \$7,377 55,891 Other assets 10,393	10,692
Total assets \$ 600,353 \$ ==================================	
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses \$ 53,684 \$	55 710
Current portion of long-term debt 19,056	8.807
Accounts payable and accrued expenses \$ 53,684 \$ Current portion of long-term debt 19,056 Income taxes payable 4,312	1,867
Total current liabilities 77,052	
Long-term debt, less current portion 59,227	59,455
Long-term debt, less current portion 59,227 Deferred income taxes 14,912	14,912
Total liabilities 151,191	140,751
Stockholders' equity:	
Preferred stock - \$.01 par value, authorized 5,000,000	
shares, no shares issued -	-
Common stock - \$.01 par value, authorized 100,000,000 shares, issued 34,858,537 and 34,810,722 shares 349	240
Additional paid-in capital 34,010,722 Shares 349	348 364,877
Retained earnings 85,631	79,089
	4,639
457,597	448,953
Less: 622,516 and 606,619 shares of treasury stock, at cost (8,435)	
	440,797
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity \$600,353 \$	

Three Months Ended September 30,

	September 30,		
	2003	2002	
	(Unaudited)		
Net sales Cost of sales	\$ 127,053 89,891	\$ 96,420 68,622	
Gross profit	37,162	27,798	
Selling, general and administrative expenses	25,819	20,095	
Operating income	11,343	7,703	
Interest expense and other expenses, net	791	170	
Income before income taxes Provision for income taxes	10,552 4,010	2,844	
Net income	\$ 6,542 =======		
Net income per share: Basic	\$ 0.19 ========	\$ 0.14	
Diluted	\$ 0.19		
Weighted average common shares outstanding: Basic	34,221		
Diluted	35,356 ======	34,382 =======	

THE HAIN CELESTIAL GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (UNAUDITED) FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 (In thousands, except per share and share data)

	Common S	tock	Additional		Treasur	y Stock	Foreign Currency		
	Shares	Amount at \$.01	Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Shares		Translation Adjustment		nprehensive Income
Balance at June 30, 2003	34,810,722	\$348	\$ 364,877	\$ 79,089	606,619	\$(8,156)	\$ 4,639	\$440,797	
Exercise of stock options	47,815	1	575					576	
Purchase of treasury shares					15,897	(279)		(279)	
Non-cash compensation charge			12					12	
Comprehensive income: Net income for the period				6,542				6,542	\$ 6,542
Translation adjustments							1,514	1,514	1,514
Total comprehensive income									\$ 8,056
Balance at September 30, 2003	34,858,537	\$ 349	\$ 365,464 =======	\$ 85,631	622,516 == ======	\$(8,435) = ======	\$ 6,153 = =======	\$449,162 =======	

	September 30,		
	2003	2002	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		udited)	
Net income Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:	\$ 6,542	\$ 4,689	
Depreciation and amortization Provision for doubtful accounts	2,592 92	2,013 (100)	
Increase (decrease) in cash attributable to changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of amounts applicable to acquired businesses:			
Accounts receivable Inventories Other current assets Other assets Accounts payable and accrued expenses Income taxes, net	(13,588) (2,639) 50 736 (2,937) 2,445	(6,493) 1,506 (990) (104) (7,532) 5,804 	
Net cash used in operating activities	(6,707)	(1,207)	
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES Purchases of property and equipment		(2,047)	
Net cash used in investing activities	(998)		
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES Proceeds (repayments) from bank revolving			
credit facility, net Payments on economic development revenue bonds Purchase of treasury stock Proceeds from exercise of options, net of related expenses (Repayments) proceeds of other long-term debt, net	10,750 (125) (279) 576 (428)	1,800 (125) (2,279) - 341	
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	10,494	(263)	
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	(894)	(85)	
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	1,895 10,984 \$		
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 12,879 =======	\$ 3,936 ======	

Three Months Ended

1. GENERAL

The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. (herein referred to as "we", "us" and "our") is a natural, organic, specialty and snack food company. We are a leader in many top natural food categories, with such well-known natural food brands as Celestial Seasonings(R) teas, Hain Pure Foods(R), Westbrae(R), Westsoy(R), Rice Dream(R), Soy Dream(R), Imagine(R), Little Bear Organic Foods(R), Bearitos(R), Arrowhead Mills(R), Health Valley(R), Breadshop(R), Casbah(R), Garden of Eatin'(R), Walnut Acres Certified Organic(R), Terra Chips(R), Harry's Premium Snacks(R), Boston's(R), Yves Veggie Cuisine(R), DeBoles(R), Earth's Best(R), Nile Spice(R), Lima(R), Biomarche(R) and Grains Noirs(R). Our principal speciality product lines include Hollywood(R) cooking oils, Estee(R) sugar-free products, Kineret(R) kosher foods, Boston Better Snacks(R), and Alba Foods(R).

We operate in one business segment: the sale of natural, organic and other food and beverage products. In our 2003 fiscal year, approximately 42% of our revenues were derived from products that were manufactured within our own facilities with 58% produced by various co-packers.

Certain reclassifications have been made to our previous year's consolidated financial statements to conform them to the current year's presentation.

All amounts in our consolidated financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, except share and per share amounts.

2. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Our consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (including normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the three months ended September 30, 2003 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending June 30, 2004. Please refer to the footnotes to our consolidated financial statements as of June 30, 2003 and for the year then ended included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for information not included in these condensed footnotes.

3. EARNINGS PER SHARE

We report basic and diluted earnings per share in accordance with SFAS Statement No. 128, "Earnings Per Share" ("SFAS No. 128"). Basic earnings per share excludes the dilutive effects of options and warrants. Diluted earnings per share includes only the dilutive effects of common stock equivalents such as stock options and warrants.

	Three Months Ended September 30,		
	2003	2002	
Numerator: Net income		\$ 4,689	
Denominator (in thousands): Denominator for basic earnings per share - weighted average shares outstanding	0.4.004	00.700	
during the period	34,221	33,702	
Effect of dilutive securities: Stock options Warrants		522 158	
	1,135	680	
Denominator for diluted earnings per share - adjusted weighted average shares			
and assumed conversions	35,356	34,382	
Basic net income per share	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.14	
Diluted net income per share		\$ 0.14 =======	

4. INVENTORIES

Inventories consist of the following:

	============	===========
	\$ 69,068	\$ 66,444
Raw materials, work-in-progress and packaging	24,990	23, 422
Finished goods	\$ 44,078	\$ 43,022
	September 30, 2003	June 30, 2003

5. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Property, plant and equipment consist of the following:

	September 30, 2003	June 30, 2003
Land Building and improvements Machinery and equipment Furniture and fixtures Leasehold improvements Construction in progress	\$ 6,918 24,520 63,082 2,384 1,474 2,896	\$ 6,913 24,448 61,949 2,383 1,457 3,070
Less: Accumulated depreciation and amortization	101,274 33,849	100,220 31,555
	\$ 67,425	\$ 68,665

6. ACQUISITIONS

On June 17, 2003, we acquired 100% of the stock of privately-held Acirca, Inc., the owner of the Walnut Acres Certified Organic(R) brand of organic fruit juices, soups, pasta sauces and salsas. Since June 2000, the financial and investment group Acirca, Inc. has expanded Walnut Acres, its premier certified organic food and beverage brand, by integrating a series of organic brands including Mountain Sun(R), ShariAnn's(R), Millina's Finest(R), and Frutti di Bosco(R) into its Walnut Acres flagship. The acquisition of these product lines allows us to add natural and organic juices and sauces to our product offerings, and enhance our offerings of soups and salsas. The purchase price consisted of approximately \$9 million in cash, 134,797 shares of our common stock valued at \$2.2 million, plus the assumption of certain liabilities. At September 30, 2003, goodwill from this transaction was estimated to be \$15.2 million.

On December 2, 2002, we acquired substantially all of the assets and assumed certain liabilities of privately-held Imagine Foods, Inc. ("Imagine") in the United States and the United Kingdom. Imagine is a non-dairy beverage company specializing in aseptic and refrigerated rice and soy milks, organic aseptic soups and broths, and organic frozen desserts in the U.S., Canada, and Europe. The acquisition of these product lines is expected to enhance our existing market positions in non-dairy beverages and soups while adding frozen dessert products to our offerings to customers. The purchase price consisted of approximately \$44.2 million in cash, 532,765 shares of our common stock valued at \$7 million, plus the assumption of certain liabilities. At September 30, 2003, goodwill from this transaction was valued at \$35.8 million, trademarks and other non-amortizable intangibles were \$15.7 million, and patents and other amortizable intangibles were valued at \$1.5 million.

The following table summarizes the estimated fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed of Acirca and Imagine at the dates of the acquisitions:

Current assets	\$17,714
Property and equipment	2,409
Total assets	20,123
Liabilities assumed	14,937
Net assets acquired	\$ 5,186 =========

The balance sheet at September 30, 2003, includes the assets acquired and liabilities assumed valued at fair market value at the date of purchase. We have completed substantially all of the procedures required to finalize the purchase price allocation for Imagine, while such procedures required for Acirca are in the early stages and are expected to be completed during 2004.

Our results of operations for the three months ended September 30, 2003 include the results of the above described acquisitions for the complete period. Unaudited pro forma results of operations reflecting the above acquisitions as if they occurred at the beginning of the three month period ended September 30, 2002, would have been as follows:

Net sales	\$	123,131
Net income	\$	3,227
Income per share: Basic	\$	0.09
Diluted	\$	0.09
Weighted average shares: Basic		34,370
Diluted	=====	35,050
	=====	

In management's opinion, the unaudited pro forma results of operations are not indicative of the actual results that would have occurred had the Acirca and Imagine acquisitions been consummated at the beginning of the three month period ended September 30, 2002 or of future operations of the combined companies under our management.

On May 14, 2003, our subsidiary in Belgium acquired Grains Noirs, N.V., a Belgian producer and marketer of fresh prepared organic appetizers, salads, sandwiches and other full-plated dishes. The purchase price paid was approximately \$2.2 million in cash. The net assets acquired, as well as the sales and results of operations of Grains Noirs, are not material and, therefore, have not been included in the detailed information about our acquisitions.

7. CREDIT FACILITY

We have a \$240 million Credit Facility with a group of banks (the "Credit Facility") which provides us with a \$145 million revolving credit facility through March 29, 2005 and a \$95 million 364-day facility through March 25, 2004. The Credit Facility is unsecured, but is guaranteed by all of our current and future direct and indirect domestic subsidiaries. We are required to comply with customary affirmative and negative covenants for facilities of this nature. Revolving credit loans under this facility bear interest at a base rate (greater

of the applicable prime rate or Federal Funds Rate plus applicable margin) or, at our option, the reserve adjusted LIBOR rate plus an applicable margin. As of September 30, 2003, \$52.2 million was borrowed under the revolving credit facility with interest at 2.5% which is classified within long-term debt. In addition, at September 30, 2003, \$12.4 million was borrowed under the 364-day facility with interest at 4.4% which is classified within current portion of long-term debt.

8. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

The Company accounts for its stock-based compensation plans using the intrinsic value method under APB Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees" ("APB 25") and related Interpretations. Under APB 25, when the exercise price of our employee stock options at least equals the market price of the underlying stock on the date of grant, no compensation expense is recognized.

If compensation cost for the Company's stock-based compensation plans had been determined based on the fair value at the grant dates consistent with the method prescribed by Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 123, "Accounting For Stock-Based Compensation", net earnings and earnings per share for the three months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002 would have been the proforma amounts that follow:

	Three Months Ende September 30,	
	2003	2002
Net income, as reported Non-cash compensation charge, net of related tax effects	\$ 6,542 7	\$ 4,689 7
Stock-based employee compensation expense determined under fair value method, net of related tax effects		
Totaled cax effects	(1,221)	(4,455)
Proforma net income	\$ 5,328 =======	\$ 241 =======
Basic net income per share:		
As reported	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.14
	======	======
Proforma	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.01
Diluted act income are characteristics	======	======
Diluted net income per share: As reported	\$ 0.19 ======	\$ 0.14 ======
Proforma	\$ 0.15 ======	\$ 0.01 ======

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Overview

We manufacture, market, distribute and sell natural, organic, specialty and snack food products under brand names which are sold as "better-for-you" products. We are a leader in many of the top natural food categories, with such well-known natural food brands as Celestial Seasonings(R) teas, Hain Pure Foods(R), Westbrae(R), Westsoy(R), Arrowhead Mills(R), Health Valley(R), Breadshop's(R), Casbah(R), Garden of Eatin'(R), Rice Dream(R), Soy Dream(R), Imagine(R), Walnut Acres Certified Organic(R), Little Bear Organic Foods(R), Bearitos(R), Terra Chips(R), Harry's Premium Snacks(R), Boston's(R), Gaston's(R), Yves Veggie Cuisine(R), DeBoles(R), Earth's Best(R), Nile Spice(R), Lima(R), Biomarche(R) and Grains Noirs(R). Our principal specialty product lines include Hollywood(R) cooking oils, Estee(R) sugar-free products, Kineret(R) kosher foods, Boston Better Snacks(R), and Alba Foods(R). Our website can be found at www.hain-celestial.com.

Our products are sold primarily to specialty and natural food distributors, supermarkets, natural food stores, and other retail classes of trade including mass-market stores, drug stores, food service channels and club stores.

Our brand names are well recognized in the various market categories they serve. We have acquired numerous brands and we will seek future growth through internal expansion as well as the acquisition of additional complementary brands.

Our overall mission is to be a leading marketer and seller of natural, organic, beverage, snack and specialty food products by integrating all of our brands under one management team and employing a uniform marketing, sales and distribution program. Our business strategy is to capitalize on the brand equity and the distribution previously achieved by each of our acquired product lines and to enhance revenues by strategic introductions of new product lines that complement existing products.

Results of Operations

Three months ended September 30, 2003

Net sales for the three months ended September 30, 2003 were \$127.1 million, an increase of \$30.7 million or 31.8% over net sales of \$96.4 million in the September 30, 2002 quarter. Our Canadian business grew 23.2%, our European business grew 59.0% and our U.S. business grew 30.2%. These increases come principally from volume increases, including increased volume from brands owned for more than one year as well as the volume added to each geographic area by the addition of the Imagine Foods, Walnut Acres and Grains Noirs brands to our portfolio. Net sales also benefited from the movement of foreign currencies against the U.S. dollar.

Gross profit for the three months ended September 30, 2003 was 29.2% of net sales as compared to 28.8% of net sales in the September 30, 2002 quarter. The increase was a result of more efficient promotional spending and reduced distribution costs.

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased by \$5.7 million to \$25.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2003 as compared to \$20.1 million in the September 30, 2002 quarter. Such expenses as a percentage of net sales amounted to 20.3% for the three months ended September 30, 2003 compared with 20.8% in the September 30, 2002 quarter. As a percentage of sales, selling, general, and administrative expenses decreased while the overall dollars increased. The overall increase in dollars is a result of increased advertising and marketing spending needed to support our increased sales, while as a percentage of sales our general and administrative costs decreased reflecting synergies from our acquired businesses.

Operating income was \$11.3 million in the three months ended September 30, 2003 compared to \$7.7 million in the September 30, 2002 quarter. Operating income as a percentage of net sales amounted to 8.9% in the September 30, 2003 quarter, compared with 8.0% in the September 30, 2002 quarter. The dollar and percentage increases resulted principally from the higher gross profits and lower selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of sales.

Interest and other expenses amounted to \$.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2003 compared to \$.2 million in the comparable period. This increase is from higher interest expense in the 2003 quarter resulting from increased borrowings for acquisitions, and increased foreign currency transaction expense in our Canadian business.

Income before income taxes for the three months ended September 30, 2003 amounted to \$10.6 million compared to \$7.5 million in the comparable period. This increase was attributable to the increase in operating income.

Our effective income tax rate approximated 38% of pre-tax income for both the three months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002. We expect our tax rate to approximate this rate during the remainder of fiscal 2004.

Net income for the three months ended September 30, 2003 was \$6.5 million compared to \$4.7 million in the September 30, 2002 quarter. The increase of \$1.8 million in earnings was primarily attributable to the aforementioned increase in income before income tax.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

We finance our operations and growth primarily with the cash flows we generate from our operations and from borrowings under our Credit Facility.

We have available to us a \$240 million Credit Facility (the "Credit Facility") which provides us with a \$145 million revolving credit facility through March 29, 2005 and a \$95 million 364-day facility through March 25, 2004. The Credit Facility is unsecured, but is guaranteed by all of our direct and indirect domestic subsidiaries. We are required to comply with customary affirmative and negative covenants for facilities of this nature. As of September 30, 2003 we had \$64.6 million outstanding under these facilities.

This access to capital provides us with flexible working capital needs in the normal course of business and the opportunity to grow our business through acquisitions or develop our existing infrastructure through capital investment.

Net cash used in operations was \$6.7 and \$1.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002, respectively. Our working capital and current ratio was \$90.6 million and 2.2 to 1, respectively, at September 30, 2003 compared with \$83.3 million and 2.3 to 1 respectively, at June 30, 2003. The increase in working capital resulted principally from higher inventory levels as we enter our busiest seasonal periods.

Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities was \$10.5 million and (\$0.3) million for the three months ended September 30, 2003 and 2002, respectively. In the September 2003 period, borrowings under our credit facility was the principal cause of the cash increase, while the borrowings in the September 2002 period were offset by acquisitions of shares of our common stock in open market purchases as part of our buy back program.

Obligations for all debt instruments, capital and operating leases and other contractual obligations are as follows:

	Less than 1				
	Total	year	1 - 3 years	Thereafter	
Debt instruments	\$ 75,139	\$ 17,347	\$55,326	\$ 2,466	
Capital lease obligations	3,144	1,709	1,435	-	
Operating leases	19,193	3,168	8,174	7,851	
Total contractual cash obligations	\$ 97,476	\$ 22,224	\$64,935	\$10,317	

We believe that cash on hand of \$12.9 million at September 30, 2003, projected remaining fiscal 2004 cash flows from operations, and availability under our Credit Facility are sufficient to fund our working capital needs, anticipated capital expenditures of approximately \$10 million for the remainder of fiscal 2004, and the \$22.2 million of debt and lease obligations described in the table above. We currently invest our cash on hand in highly liquid short-term investments yielding approximately 1% interest.

Critical Accounting Policies

Our financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The accounting principles we use require us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and amounts of income and expenses during the reporting periods presented. We believe in the quality and reasonableness of our critical accounting policies; however, it is likely that materially different amounts would be reported under different conditions or using assumptions different from those that we have consistently applied. We believe our critical accounting policies are as follows, including our methodology for estimates made and assumptions used:

Valuation of Accounts and Chargebacks Receivables

We perform ongoing credit evaluations on existing and new customers daily. We apply reserves for delinquent or uncollectible trade receivables based on a specific identification methodology and also apply a general reserve based on the experience we have with our trade receivables aging categories. Credit losses have been within our expectations over the last few years. While two of our customers represent approximately 25% of our trade receivable balance on an ongoing basis, we believe there is no credit exposure at this time.

Based on cash collection history and other statistical analysis, we estimate the amount of unauthorized deductions that our customers have taken to be repaid and collectible in the near future in the form of a chargeback receivable. While our estimate of this receivable balance could be different had we used different assumptions and judgments, historically our cash collections of this type of receivable have generally been within our expectations. Our chargebacks receivable balance at September 30, 2003 was \$5.7 million as compared to \$6 million at June 30, 2003.

There can be no assurance that we would have the same experience with our receivables during different economic conditions, or with changes in business conditions, such as consolidation within the food industry and/or a change in the way we market and sell our products.

Inventory

Our inventory is valued at the lower of cost or market. Cost has been derived principally using standard costs utilizing the first-in, first-out method. We provide write-downs for finished goods expected to become non-saleable due to age and specifically identify and reserve for slow moving or obsolete raw ingredients and packaging.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Our property, plant and equipment is carried at cost and depreciated or amortized on a straight-line basis over the lesser of the estimated useful lives or lease life, whichever is shorter. We believe the asset lives assigned to our property, plant and equipment are within ranges/guidelines generally used in food manufacturing and distribution businesses. Our manufacturing plants and distribution centers, and their related assets, are periodically reviewed to determine if any impairment exists by analyzing underlying cash flow projections. At this time, we believe no impairment exists on the carrying value of such assets. Ordinary repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred.

Intangibles

Goodwill is no longer amortized and the value of an identifiable intangible asset is amortized over its useful life unless the asset is determined to have an indefinite useful life. The carrying values of goodwill and other intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are tested annually for impairment.

Revenue Recognition and Sales Incentives

Sales are recognized upon the shipment of finished goods to customers and are reported net of sales incentives. Allowances for cash discounts and returns are recorded in the period in which the related sale is recognized. Shipping and handling costs are included as a component of cost of sales.

Seasonality

Our tea business consists primarily of manufacturing and marketing hot tea products and, as a result, its quarterly results of operations reflect seasonal trends resulting from increased demand for its hot tea products in the cooler months of the year. This is also true for our soups and hot cereals businesses, but to a lesser extent. Quarterly fluctuations in our sales volume and operating results are due to a number of factors relating to our business, including the timing of trade promotions, advertising and consumer promotions and other factors, such as seasonality, abnormal and inclement weather patterns and unanticipated increases in labor, commodity, energy, insurance or other operating costs. The impact on sales volume and operating results, due to the timing and extent of these factors, can significantly impact our business. For these reasons, you should not rely on our quarterly operating results as indications of future performance. In some future periods, our operating results may fall below the expectations of securities analysts and investors, which could harm our business.

Inflation

The Company does not believe that inflation had a significant impact on the Company's results of operations for the periods presented.

Note Regarding Forward Looking Information

Certain statements contained in this Quarterly Report constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1934 and Sections 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements of the Company, or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others, the following: general economic and business conditions; the ability of the Company to implement its business and acquisition strategy; the ability to effectively integrate its acquisitions; the ability of the Company to obtain financing for general corporate purposes; competition; availability of key personnel; and changes in, or the failure to comply with government regulations. As a result of the foregoing and other factors, no assurance can be given as to the future results, levels of activity and achievements and neither the Company nor any person assumes responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of these statements.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

There have been no material changes in the reported market risks since the end of the most recent fiscal year.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures.

Our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have reviewed our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon this review, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are adequately designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time period specified in applicable rules and forms.

(b) Changes in Internal Controls.

There were no significant changes in our internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect these controls during the quarter covered by this report or from the end of the reporting period to the date of this Form 10-Q.

Part II - OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 6. - EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

Reports on Form 8-K

We filed a report on Form 8-K on July 31, 2003, as amended on September 2, 2003 and September 18, 2003, reporting on items 2 and 7, relating to our acquisition of Acirca, Inc. on June 17, 2003.

On September 2, 2003, we furnished a report on Form 8-K, reporting on Item 12, announcing our earnings for our fourth quarter and fiscal year ended June 30, 2003.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number

Description

- 10.1 Employment Agreement dated July 1, 2003 between The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. and Irwin D. Simon.
- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended.
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Eychange Act, as amended
- and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended.

 32.1 Certification by Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2 Certification by Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

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 thereunto duly authorized.

THE HAIN CELESTIAL GROUP, INC.

Date: November 13, 2003 /s/ Irwin D. Simon

Irwin D. Simon,

Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: November 13, 2003 /s/ Ira J. Lamel

Ira J. Lamel, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT, dated as of July 1, 2003, by and between The Hain Celestial Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), and Irwin D. Simon ("Executive").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Company desires that Executive continue to serve as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company and Executive is willing to continue to serve:

WHEREAS, the Compensation Committee of the Company's Board of Directors and the Company's Board of Directors, at meetings duly called and held, have each authorized and approved the execution and delivery of this Agreement by the Company; and

WHEREAS, the Company and Executive wish to enter into an agreement embodying the terms of his employment as President and Chief Executive Officer (the "Agreement").

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants herein contained, the Company and Executive hereby agree as follows:

- 1. Employment. Upon the terms and subject to the conditions of this Agreement, the Company hereby agrees to continue to employ Executive and Executive hereby agrees to continue his employment by the Company until the fourth anniversary of the date set forth above (the "Term"). The period during which Executive is employed pursuant to this Agreement shall be referred to as the "Employment Period."
- 2. Position, Duties and Location. During the Employment Period, Executive shall serve as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company and shall be nominated for election, and if so elected shall continue to serve, as a member of the Board of Directors of the Company and, unless the Company and Executive shall jointly determine otherwise, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board"). In addition, Executive shall serve in such other position or positions with the Company and its subsidiaries commensurate with his position and experience as the Board shall from time to time specify. During the Employment Period, Executive shall have the duties, responsibilities and obligations customarily assigned to individuals serving as the president and chief executive officer of comparable companies, and such other duties, responsibilities and obligations consistent with such positions as the Board shall from time to time specify. During the Employment Period, the Executive will be the most senior executive to report to the Board. Executive shall

devote his full business time to the services required of him hereunder, except for vacation time and reasonable periods of absence due to sickness, personal injury or other disability, and shall use commercially reasonable efforts to perform such services in a manner consonant with the duties of his position and to improve and advance the business and interests of the Company and its subsidiaries. Nothing contained in this Section 2 shall preclude Executive from (i) serving on the board of directors of any business corporation, unless such service would be contrary to applicable law, (ii) serving on the board of directors of, or working for, any charitable or community organization or (iii)pursuing his personal financial and legal affairs, so long as such activities, individually or collectively, do not interfere with the performance of Executive's duties hereunder or violate any of the provisions of Section 6 hereof. Executive's place of employment shall be at the Company's principal executive office in Melville, New York.

3. Compensation.

(a) Base Salary. The Company shall pay Executive a base salary for each of the Company's fiscal years during the Employment Period at the following annual rates:

For the Fiscal Year Ending	Amount	
June 30, 2004	\$	810,000
June 30, 2005	\$	875,000
June 30, 2006	\$	950,000
June 30, 2007	\$	1,050,000

The Board (or the appropriate committee of the Board) shall annually review Executive's base salary in light of competitive practices, the base salaries paid to other executive officers of the Company and the performance of Executive and the Company, and may, in its discretion, increase such base salary by any additional amount it determines to be appropriate; provided, however, any such increase shall not reduce or limit any other obligation of the Company hereunder. Executive's base salary (as set forth or as may be increased from time to time) shall not be reduced. Executive's annual base salary payable hereunder, as it may be increased from time to time is referred to herein as "Base Salary." The Company shall pay Executive his Base Salary in accordance with the normal payroll practices of the Company for its executive officers.

(b) Annual Bonus. For each fiscal year of the Company ending during the Employment Period, Executive shall be eligible to receive an annual bonus, based on the Executive's and the Company's performance during such fiscal year, equal to up to 150% of his Base Salary, payable in the form of cash or otherwise, as may be determined as set forth below to be commensurate with the Company's and/or Executive's performance.

- (1) Fiscal 2004. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, Executive's annual bonus shall be determined by the Compensation Committee of the Board (the "Compensation Committee") based on the following components:
 - I. Revenue Target

Percentage of Annual Bonus: 25%

II. Net Income Target

Percentage of Annual Bonus: 35%

III. Special Accomplishments Target (Acquisitions, New Ventures)

Percentage of Annual Bonus: 25%

IV. Leadership/Organization Target

Percentage of Annual Bonus: 15%

(2) Subsequent Fiscal Years. For each subsequent fiscal year during the term of this Agreement, Executive and the Compensation Committee shall establish performance objectives based on a set of performance criteria, to be determined annually by the Compensation Committee in consultation with Executive, and to be similar to those established for the Company's fiscal year ending June 30, 2004. Each component of the performance criteria will include a performance objective and a weighting for such objective as a component of Mr. Simon's overall annual bonus.

In addition, the Compensation Committee shall be authorized to provide for discretionary bonuses to Mr. Simon during any fiscal year for extraordinary corporate events.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the case that the Company enters into any acquisition or other business transactions during the Employment Period with the prior approval of the Board that, in the Executive's reasonable judgment, materially affects the Executive's ability to achieve the foregoing performance objectives, the Executive may request that the Compensation Committee review his performance objectives. Following such review, the Compensation Committee may make any appropriate modifications to the Executive's performance objectives that it deems necessary to cause such performance objectives to remain consistent with those contemplated in this Section 3(b).

- (c) Options.
- (i) Effective May 13, 2003, Executive shall be granted options exercisable for 300,000 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of the market price on the effective date of grant under the Company's 2002 Stock Incentive and Award Plan or any substantially similar plan adopted by the Company from time to time (the "Plan"). The date of grant shall be determined by the Executive and the Board and the options will vest immediately.
- (ii) On July 1 of each fiscal year during the Employment Period (other than the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004 and commencing July 1, 2004) in which the Executive continues to by employed by the Company under the terms of this Agreement, Executive shall be granted options exercisable for 300,000 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of the market price at the date of grant under the Plan. The date of grant shall be determined by the Executive and the Board and the options will vest immediately.

(d) Restricted Stock.

In January 2004, but in no event prior to the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held subsequent to the conclusion of the Company's fiscal year ended June 30, 2003, Executive shall receive an award of 150,000 shares of restricted stock (the "Restricted Shares") under the Plan. Subject to Section 5, such restricted stock shall vest equally over the period from the date of award to the conclusion of the Employment Period. The Compensation Committee may review the overall amount of restricted stock annually when performance objectives are determined.

The Company agrees to keep the requisite number of options available for grant under the Plan to Executive.

- 4. Benefits, Perquisites and Expenses.
- (a) Benefits. During the Employment Period, Executive shall be eligible to participate in (i) each welfare benefit plan sponsored or maintained by the Company, including, without limitation, each group life, hospitalization, medical, dental, health, accident or disability insurance or similar plan or program of the Company, and (ii) each pension, retirement, deferred compensation, savings or employee stock purchase plan sponsored or maintained by the Company, and (iii) to the extent of any awards made from time to time by the Board committee administering the plan, each stock option, restricted stock, stock bonus or similar equity-based compensation plan sponsored or maintained by the Company, in each case, whether now existing or established hereafter, to the extent that Executive is eligible to participate in any such plan under the generally applicable provisions thereof.

Nothing in this Section 4(a) shall limit the Company's right to amend or terminate any such plan in accordance with the procedures set forth therein.

- (b) Perquisites. During the Employment Period, Executive shall be entitled to at least four weeks' paid vacation annually, shall be entitled to observe all Jewish holidays and shall also be entitled to receive such perquisites as are generally provided to other senior executive officers of the Company in accordance with the then current policies and practices of the Company. Executive's unused vacation days may not be accumulated and carried forward to following years, but at the end of each calendar year Executive shall be paid in cash for all unused vacation days. In addition, during the Employment Period, Executive shall receive:
- (1) the use of a Company-owned automobile acceptable to Executive, including, at Executive's request, the services of a driver at the Company's expense, and the Company shall pay insurance premiums in respect of the automobile with liability limits not less than \$1 million/\$3 million;
- (2) supplemental executive medical insurance for reimbursement up to \$20,000; and $\,$
- (3) life insurance policy for the benefit of Mr. Simon's wife and/or children. Amounts payable under such policy should be equal to Mr. Simon's salary and bonus for fiscal 2003 and thereafter on the basis of a two year average (See Section 3) (but in no event less than \$1,500,000).
- (c) Business Expenses. During the Employment Period, the Company shall pay or reimburse Executive for all reasonable expenses incurred or paid by Executive in the performance of Executive's duties hereunder, upon presentation of expense statements or vouchers and such other information as the Company may require and in accordance with the generally applicable policies and procedures of the Company.
- (d) Indemnification. During the Employment Period, the Company shall indemnify Executive and hold Executive harmless from and against any claim, loss or cause of action arising from or out of Executive's performance as an officer, director or employee of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or in any other capacity, including any fiduciary capacity, in which Executive serves at the request of the Company to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law and the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and By-Laws.

- 5. Termination of Employment.
- (a) Early Termination of the Employment Period. Notwithstanding Section 1, the Employment Period shall end upon the earliest to occur of (1) a termination of Executive's employment on account of Executive's death, (2) a termination due to Executive's Disability, (3) Termination for Cause, (4) a Termination Without Cause, (5) a Termination for Good Reason or (6) Termination Not for Good Reason.
- (b) Benefits Payable Upon Early Termination; Change of Control; Non-Renewal. (1) Following the end of the Employment Period pursuant to Section 5(a), (2) following a Change of Control of the Company after which the Executive remains employed by the Company or its successor under the terms of this Agreement, or (3) in the event this Agreement is not renewed upon or prior to its expiration on equal or more favorable terms (a "Non-Renewal"), Executive (or, in the event of his death, his surviving spouse, if any, or his estate) shall be paid the type or types of compensation, without duplication, determined to be payable in accordance with the following table at the times established pursuant to Section 5(c):

	Earned Salary	Vested Benefits	Additional Benefits	Severance Benefits
Termination due to death	Payable	Payable	Payable	Not payable
Termination due to Disability	Payable	Payable	Payable	Not payable
Termination for Cause	Payable	Payable	Not payable	Not payable
Termination for Good Reason	Payable	Payable	Payable	Payable
Termination Without Cause	Payable	Payable	Payable	Payable
Termination Not for Good Reason	Payable	Payable	Not payable	Not payable
Change of Control of the Company (without Termina- tion)	, ,	Not payable	Not payable	Payable
Non-Renewal	Payable	Payable	Payable	Not Payable

- (c) Timing of Payments. Earned Salary shall be paid in cash in a single lump sum as soon as practicable, but in no event more than 10 days, following the end of the Employment Period. Vested Benefits shall be payable in accordance with the terms of the plan, policy, practice, program, contract or agreement under which such benefits have been awarded or accrued. Additional Benefits shall be provided or made available at the times specified below as to each such Additional Benefit. Unless otherwise specified, Severance Benefits shall be paid in a single lump sum cash payment as soon as practicable, but in no event later than 10 days after the Executive's termination.
- (d) Definitions. For purposes of Sections 5 and 6, capitalized terms have the following meanings:

"Additional Benefits" means, the benefits described below:

- (i) All of the Executive's benefits accrued under the employee option, pension, retirement, savings and deferred compensation plans of the Company shall become vested in full (including, but not limited to, any options granted in accordance with Section 3(c) or the Restricted Shares awarded under Section 3(d)); provided, however, that to the extent such accelerated vesting of benefits cannot be provided under one or more of such plans consistent with applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), such benefits shall be paid to the Executive in a lump sum within 10 days after termination of employment outside the applicable plan;
- (ii) Executive (and, to the extent applicable, his dependents) will be entitled to continue participation in all of the Company's medical, dental and vision care plans (the "Health Benefit Plans"), until the third anniversary of Executive's termination of employment (second anniversary in the case of termination due to death); provided that Executive's participation in the Company's Health Benefit Plans shall cease on any earlier date that Executive becomes eligible for comparable benefits from a subsequent employer. Executive's participation in the Health Benefit Plans will be on the same terms and conditions (including, without limitation, any contributions that would have been required from Executive) that would have applied had Executive continued to be employed by the Company. To the extent any such benefits cannot be provided under the terms of the applicable plan, policy or program, the Company shall provide a comparable benefit under another plan or from the Company's general assets; and

(iii) An amount equal to (A) three times (two times in the case of termination due to death) Base Salary in effect on the date of termination, plus (B) three times (two times in the case of termination due to death) the average annual bonus paid to the Executive over two immediately preceding fiscal years, including any annual bonus paid pursuant to Section 3(b), plus (c), except in the case of Non-Renewal, the Executive's accrued annual bonus through the date of termination, determined in accordance with clause (B) above.

"Black-Scholes Value" means the value of options to purchase the Company's common stock for which such value is to be determined under this Agreement, as calculated by the Accountants (as defined in Section 5(f)) or any other compensation consultant mutually agreeable to the parties (the "Compensation Consultant") using the Black-Scholes method of valuation in determining such valuation, the Compensation Consultant in its good faith discretion shall be responsible for designating commercially reasonable and customary parameters for the Black-Scholes method, which shall be outlined to Executive in writing upon the determination of the Black-Scholes Value for purposes of making a payment under the Agreement.

- (i) any person (within the meaning of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act")), other than the Company, is or becomes the "beneficial owner" (as defined in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act), directly or indirectly, of Voting Securities representing 50 percent or more of the total voting power of all the then-outstanding Voting Securities; or
- (ii) the individuals who, as of the date hereof, constitute the Board, together with those who first become directors subsequent to such date and whose recommendation, election or nomination for election to the Board was approved by a vote of at least a majority of the directors then still in office who either were directors as of the date hereof or whose recommendation, election or nomination for election was previously so approved (the "Continuing Directors"), cease for any reason to constitute a majority of the members of the Board; or

(iii) the stockholders of the Company approve a merger, consolidation, recapitalization or reorganization of the Company or a subsidiary, reverse split of any class of Voting Securities, or an acquisition of securities or assets by the Company or a subsidiary, or consummation of any such transaction if stockholder approval is not obtained, other than any such transaction in which the holders of outstanding Voting Securities immediately prior to the transaction receive (or, in the case of a transaction involving a subsidiary and not the Company, retain), with respect to such Voting Securities, voting securities of the surviving or transferee entity representing more than 60 percent of the total voting power outstanding immediately after such transaction, with the voting power of each such continuing holder relative to other such continuing holders not substantially altered in the transaction; or

(iv) the stockholders of the Company approve a plan of complete liquidation of the Company or an agreement for the sale or disposition by the Company of all or substantially all of the Company's assets.

"Disability" means long-term disability within the meaning of the Company's long-term disability plan or program.

"Earned Salary" means any Base Salary earned, but unpaid, for services rendered to the Company on or prior to the date on which the Employment Period ends pursuant to Section 5(a) hereof.

"Severance Benefit" means an amount equal to the greater of (i) the Black-Scholes Value, determined as of the most recent option grant date to Executive under this Agreement or (ii) the Black-Scholes Value, determined as of the date that causes the Severance Benefit to become payable under this Agreement, of all options for the Company's common stock contemplated but not yet granted under Section 3(c). In addition, in the event the Executive's employment is terminated hereunder, all of the shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of options are not eligible for resale by Executive within 90 days following the date of the event giving rise to the payment of these Severance Benefits either under Rule 144 or pursuant to an effective registration statement, and following written request by the Executive, the Company fails to file and cause to have become effective within 90 days of such notice a registration statement relating to such resale and to keep such registration statement effective for a period of 90 days thereafter, Executive may, at his option, exchange such options for an amount equal to the Black-Scholes Value thereof computed in accordance with the preceding sentence.

"Termination for Cause" means a termination of Executive's employment by the Company due to (i) Executive's conviction of a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude, or (ii) Executive's willful and continued failure to perform the material duties of his position, which failure continues for a period of 30 days after Executive's receipt of written notice from the Company specifying the exact details of such alleged failure and which has had (or is expected to have) a material adverse effect on the business of the Company or its subsidiaries.

"Termination for Good Reason" means a termination of Executive's employment by Executive following (i) a diminution in Executive's positions, duties and responsibilities from those described in Section 2 hereof, (ii) the removal of Executive from, or the failure to re-elect Executive as Chairman of the Board of the Company or as Chief Executive Officer of the Company, (iii) a reduction in Executive's annual Base Salary, (iv) a material breach by the Company of any other provision of this Agreement or (vii) a Change in Control of the Company.

"Termination Not For Good Reason" means any termination of Executive's employment by Executive other than Termination for Good Reason or a termination due to Executive's Disability or death.

"Termination Without Cause" means any termination of Executive's employment by the Company other than a Termination for Cause or a termination due to Executive's Disability.

"Vested Benefits" means amounts which are vested or which Executive is otherwise entitled to receive under the terms of or in accordance with any plan, policy, practice or program of, or any contract or agreement with, the Company or any of its subsidiaries, at or subsequent to the date of his termination without regard to the performance by Executive of further services or the resolution of a contingency.

"Voting Securities or Security" means any securities of the Company which carry the right to vote generally in the election of directors.

(e) Full Discharge of Obligations. Except as expressly provided in the last sentence of this Section 5(e), the amounts payable to Executive pursuant to this Section 5 and Section 7(d) following termination of his employment (including amounts payable with respect to Vested Benefits) shall be in full and complete satisfaction of Executive's rights under this Agreement. Except as otherwise set forth in Section 6, after the effective date of a termination of employment for any reason, Executive shall have no further obligations or liabilities to the Company. Nothing in this Section 5(e) shall be construed to release the Company from its commitment to indemnify Executive and hold Executive harmless from and against any claim, loss or cause of action as described in Section 4(d).

- (f) Excise Tax Gross-Up.
- (i) Anything in this Agreement to the contrary notwithstanding, if it shall be determined that any payment, distribution or benefit provided (including, without limitation, the acceleration of any payment, distribution or benefit and the acceleration of exercisability of any stock option) to Executive or for his benefit (whether paid or payable or distributed or distributable) pursuant to the terms of this Agreement or otherwise (a "Payment") would be subject, in whole or in part, to the excise tax imposed by Section 4999 of the Code (the "Excise Tax"), then the Executive shall be entitled to receive from the Company an additional payment (the "Gross-Up Payment") in an amount such that the net amount of the Payment and the Gross-Up Payment retained by Executive after the calculation and deduction of all Excise Taxes (including any interest or penalties imposed with respect to such taxes) on the Payment and all federal, state and local income tax, employment tax and Excise Tax (including any interest or penalties imposed with respect to such taxes) on the Gross-Up Payment provided for in this Section 5(f) and taking into account any lost or reduced tax deductions on account of the Gross-Up Payment, shall be equal to the Payment.
- (ii) All determinations required to be made under this Section 5(f), including whether and when the Gross-Up Payment is required and the amount of such Gross-Up Payment, and the assumptions to be used in arriving at such determinations shall be made by the Accountants (as defined below) which shall provide Executive and the Company with detailed supporting calculations with respect to such Gross-Up Payment within ten (10) days after termination of Executive's employment or such other event which results in a Payment which could necessitate a Gross-Up Payment. For purposes of this Agreement, the "Accountants" shall mean Ernst & Young LLP or successor firm providing its services to the Company in connection with its annual audit. For purposes of determining the amount of the Gross-Up Payment, Executive shall be deemed to pay Federal income taxes at the applicable marginal rate of federal income taxation for the calendar year in which the Gross-Up Payment is to be made and to pay any applicable state and local income taxes at the applicable marginal rate of taxation for the calendar year in which the Gross-Up Payment is to be made, net of the reduction in federal income taxes which could be obtained from the deduction of such state or local taxes if paid in such year (determined with regard to limitations on deductions based upon the amount of Executive's adjusted gross income). To the extent practicable, any Gross-Up Payment with respect to any Payment shall be paid by the Company at the time Executive is entitled to receive the Payment and in no event shall any Gross-Up Payment be paid later than 10 days after the receipt by Executive of the Accountants determination. Any determination by the Accountants shall be binding upon the Company and Executive, including for purposes of withholding on amounts payable under this Agreement. As a result of uncertainty in the application of Section 4999 of the Code at the time of the initial determination by the Accountants hereunder, it is possible that the Gross-Up Payment made will have been an amount that is greater or less than the Company should have paid pursuant to this Section 5(f) (an "Overpayment" or "Underpayment," respectively). In the event that the Gross-Up Payment is determined by the Accountants or pursuant to any proceeding or negotiations with the Internal Revenue Service to be less than the amount initially determined by the Accountants, Executive shall promptly repay the Overpayment to the Company; provided, however, that in the event any portion of the Gross-Up Payment to be repaid to the Company has been paid to any Federal, state or local tax authority, repayment thereof shall not be required until actual refund or credit of such portion has been made to Executive. In the event that the Company exhausts its remedies pursuant to Section 5(f)(iii) and Executive is required to make a payment of any Excise Tax, the Underpayment shall be promptly paid by the Company to or for Executive's benefit.

- (iii) Executive shall notify the Company in writing of any claim by the Internal Revenue Service that, if successful, would require the payment by the Company of a Gross-Up Payment. Such notification shall be given as soon as practicable after Executive is informed in writing of such claim and shall apprise the Company of the nature of such claim and the date on which such claim is requested to be paid. Executive shall not pay such claim prior to the expiration of the 30-day period following the date on which Executive gives such notice to the Company (or such shorter period ending on the date that any payment of taxes, interest and/or penalties with respect to such claim is due). If the Company notifies Executive in writing prior to the expiration of such period that it desires to contest such claim, Executive shall:
- (A) give the Company any information reasonably requested by the Company relating to such claim;
- (B) take such action in connection with contesting such claim as the Company shall reasonably request in writing from time to time, including, without limitation, accepting legal representation with respect to such claim by an attorney reasonably selected by the Company;
- (C) cooperate with the Company in good faith in order to effectively contest such claim; and $\,$
- (D) permit the Company to participate in any proceedings relating to such claims;

provided, however, that the Company shall bear and pay directly all costs and expenses (including additional interest and penalties) incurred in connection with such contest and shall indemnify Executive for and hold Executive harmless from, on an after-tax basis, any Excise Tax, income tax or employment tax (including interest and penalties with respect thereto) imposed as a result of such representation and payment of all related costs and expenses. Without limiting the foregoing provisions of this Section 5(f), the Company shall control all proceedings taken in connection with such contest and, at its sole option, may pursue or forgo any and all administrative appeals, proceedings, hearings and conferences with the taxing authority in respect of such claim and may, at its sole option, either direct Executive to pay the tax claimed and sue for a refund or contest the claim in any permissible manner, and Executive agrees to prosecute such contest to a determination before any administrative tribunal, in a court of initial jurisdiction and in one or more appellate courts, as the Company shall determine. The Company's control of the contest shall be limited to issues with respect to which a Gross-Up Payment would be payable hereunder and Executive shall be entitled to settle or contest, as the case may be, any other issue raised by the Internal Revenue Service or any other taxing authority.

- 6. Noncompetition and Confidentiality. In consideration of the salary and benefits to be provided by the Company hereunder, including particularly the severance arrangements set forth herein, Executive agrees to the following provisions of this Section 6.
- (a) Noncompetition. During the Employment Period and during the greater of (i) three years following any termination of Executive's employment, or (ii) any period thereafter during which Executive continues to receive benefits under this Agreement, other than a Termination Without Cause, a Termination for Good Reason or Non-Renewal, Executive shall not directly or indirectly own, manage, operate, control, be employed by, participate in or, provide services or financial assistance to any business which directly competes with Company or any of its subsidiaries or engages in the type of business(es) principally conducted by the Company or any of its subsidiaries, except that Executive may own for investment purposes up to 5% of the capital stock of any such company.
- (b) Confidentiality. Executive agrees that, during the Employment Period and thereafter, he shall hold and keep confidential any trade secrets, customer lists and pricing or other confidential information, or any inventions, discoveries, improvements, products, whether patentable practices, methods or not, directly or indirectly useful in or relating to the business of the Company or its subsidiaries as conducted by it from time to time, as to which Executive shall at any time during the Employment Period become informed, and he shall not directly or indirectly disclose any such information to any person, firm or corporation or use the same except in connection with the business and affairs of the Company or its subsidiaries. The foregoing prohibition shall not apply to the extent such information, knowledge or data (a) was publicly known at the time of disclosure to Executive, (b) become publicly known or available thereafter other than by any means in violation of this Agreement, or (c) is required to be disclosed by Executive as a matter of law or pursuant to any court or regulatory order.
- (c) Company Property. Except as expressly provided herein, promptly following Executive's termination of employment, Executive shall return to the Company all property of the Company and its subsidiaries.

(d) Injunctive Relief and Other Remedies with Respect to Covenants. Executive acknowledges and agrees that the covenants and obligations of Executive with respect to noncompetition, confidentiality and Company property, relate to special, unique and extraordinary matters and that a violation of any of the terms of such covenants and obligations may cause the Company irreparable injury for which adequate remedies are not available at law. Therefore, Executive agrees that the Company shall be entitled to seek an injunction, restraining order or such other equitable relief (without the requirement to post bond) restraining Executive from committing any violation of the covenants and obligations contained in this Section 6. This remedy is in addition to any other rights and remedies the Company may have at law or in equity.

7. Miscellaneous.

- (a) Survival. Sections 4 (relating to indemnification), 5 (relating to early termination, change of control and non-renewal), 6 (relating to noncompetition, nonsolicitation and confidentiality), 7(b) (relating to arbitration), 7(c) (relating to binding effect), 7(d) (relating to full-settlement and legal expenses) and 7(n) (relating to governing law) shall survive the termination hereof.
- (b) Arbitration. Any dispute or controversy arising under or in connection with this Agreement shall be resolved by binding arbitration. This arbitration shall be held in New York City and except to the extent inconsistent with this Agreement, shall be conducted in accordance with the Expedited Employment Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association then in effect at the time of the arbitration, and otherwise in accordance with principles which would be applied by a court of law or equity. The arbitrator shall be acceptable to both the Company and Executive. If the parties cannot agree on an acceptable arbitrator, the dispute shall be held by a panel of three arbitrators one appointed by each of the parties and the third appointed by the other two arbitrators.
- (c) Binding Effect. This Agreement shall be binding on, and shall inure to the benefit of, the Company and any person or entity that succeeds to the interest of the Company (regardless of whether such succession does or does not occur by operation of law) by reason of the sale of all or a portion of the Company's stock, a merger, consolidation or reorganization involving the Company or, unless the Company otherwise elects in writing, a sale of the assets of the business of the Company (or portion thereof) in which Executive performs a majority of his services. This Agreement shall also inure to the benefit of Executive's heirs, executors, administrators and legal representatives.

- (d) Full-Settlement; Legal Expenses. The Company's obligation to make the payments provided for in this Agreement and otherwise to perform its obligations hereunder shall not be affected by any set-off, counterclaim, recoupment, defense or other claim, right or action which the Company may have against Executive or others. In no event shall Executive 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. The Company agrees to pay, upon written demand therefor by Executive, all legal fees and expenses which Executive may reasonably incur as a result of any dispute or contest by or with the Company or others regarding the validity or enforceability of, or liability under, any provision of this Agreement (including as a result of any contest by Executive about the amount of any payment hereunder) if Executive substantially prevails in the dispute or contest or the dispute or contest is settled, plus in each case interest at the applicable Federal rate provided for in Section 7872(f)(2) of the Code. In any such action brought by the Executive for damages or to enforce any provisions of this Agreement, the Executive shall be entitled to seek both legal and equitable relief and remedies, including, without limitation, specific performance of the Company's obligations hereunder, in his sole discretion.
- (e) Assignment. Except as provided under Section 7(c), neither this Agreement nor any of the rights or obligations hereunder shall be assigned or delegated by any party hereto without the prior written consent of the other party.
- (f) Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties hereto with respect to the matters referred to herein. No other agreement (other than awards made in accordance with the terms of one of the Company's applicable compensatory plans, programs or arrangements) relating to the terms of Executive's employment by the Company, oral or otherwise, shall be binding between the parties. There are no promises, representations, inducements or statements between the parties other than those that are expressly contained herein. Executive acknowledges that he is entering into this Agreement of his own free will and accord, and with no duress, that he has read this Agreement and that he understands it and its legal consequences and has been advised to consult with an attorney before executing this Agreement. Executive waives any conflict of interest which may arise due to the representation by the Executive, on the one hand, and the Company, on the other hand, by Cahill Gordon & Reindel llp, its partners and associates from time to time in connection with various legal matters, including regarding this Agreement.
- (g) Severability; Reformation. In the event that one or more of the provisions of this Agreement shall become invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions contained herein shall not be affected thereby. In the event that any of the provisions of any of Section 6 is not enforceable in accordance with its terms, Executive and the Company agree that such Section shall be reformed to make such Section enforceable in a manner which provides the Company the maximum rights permitted at law.

- (h) Waiver. Waiver by any party hereto of any breach or default by the other party of any of the terms of this Agreement shall not operate as a waiver of any other breach or default, whether similar to or different from the breach or default waived. No waiver of any provision of this Agreement shall be implied from any course of dealing between the parties hereto or from any failure by either party hereto to assert its or his rights hereunder on any occasion or series of occasions.
- (i) Notices. Any notice required or desired to be delivered under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered personally, by courier service, by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by telecopy and shall be effective upon actual receipt by the party to which such notice shall be directed, and shall be addressed as follows (or to such other address as the party entitled to notice shall hereafter designate in accordance with the terms hereof):

If to the Company:

The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. 58 South Service Road Melville, New York 11747 Attention: Secretary

If to Executive:

Irwin D. Simon c/o The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. 58 South Service Road Melville, New York 11747

Copy to:

Cahill Gordon & Reindel llp 80 Pine Street New York, New York 10005 Attention: Roger Meltzer, Esq.

(j) Amendments. This Agreement may not be altered, modified or amended except by a written instrument signed by each of the parties hereto.

- (k) Headings. Headings to paragraphs in this Agreement are for the convenience of the parties only and are not intended to be part of or to affect the meaning or interpretation hereof.
- (1) Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- (m) Withholding. Any payments provided for herein shall be reduced by any amounts required to be withheld by the Company from time to time under applicable Federal, State or local income tax laws or similar statutes then in effect.
- (n) Choice of Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, without reference to principles of conflict of laws thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Executive has hereunto set his hand and, pursuant to the authorization from its Board of Directors, the Company has caused these presents to be executed as of the day and year first above written.

THE HAIN CELESTIAL GROUP, INC.

By: /s/ Ira J. Lamel

Name: Ira J. Lamel Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

/s/ Irwin D. Simon Irwin D. Simon

CERTIFICATION

- I, Irwin D. Simon, certify that:
- 1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) for the registrant and have:
- (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
- (b) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
- (c) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
- (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
- (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 13, 2003

/s/Irwin D. Simon Irwin D. Simon President and Chief Executive Officer

- I, Ira J. Lamel, certify that:
- 1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) for the registrant and have:
- (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
- (b) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
- (c) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
- (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
- (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 13, 2003

/s/Ira J. Lamel Ira J. Lamel Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer CERTIFICATION FURNISHED
PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2003 (the "Report") filed by The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. (the "Company") with the Securities and Exchange Commission, I, Irwin D. Simon, Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. ss. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and

The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: November 13, 2003

/s/Irwin D. Simon Irwin D. Simon President and Chief Executive Officer

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. and will be retained by The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

CERTIFICATION FURNISHED
PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2003 (the "Report") filed by The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. (the "Company") with the Securities and Exchange Commission, I, Ira J. Lamel, Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. ss. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and

The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: October 30, 2003

/s/Ira J. Lamel Ira J. Lamel Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 has been provided to The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. and will be retained by The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.