



# U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRESS RELEASE

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## **FORMER CORPORATE VICE PRESIDENT PLEADS GUILTY TO PARTICIPATION IN CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD USAID**

**WASHINGTON, DC** -- The United States Agency for International Development's Office of Inspector General announced today that a plea was made on October 20, 2003, as a result of a two-year investigation by its Washington Field Office. Spencer Clark Rogers, former Vice President of Sales for Jackmoon, USA, Inc. pled guilty in U.S. District Court for the Central District of California to violating 18 U.S.C. 371 (Conspiracy) and 18 U.S.C. 1001 (False Statements).

According to a plea agreement filed with the U.S. District Court on August 1, 2003, Rogers admitted that he and other employees of California-based Jackmoon conspired and agreed to remove, and instruct other Jackmoon employees to remove the "Made in China" and place "Made in USA" designations on parts and packaging, or containers of part. These were sold and shipped to a USAID-funded prime contractor working on a telecommunications project in Egypt. The conspirators falsely represented the parts as having been made in the U.S. knowing that USAID funding for the purchase of parts supplied under the project was contingent on those parts being of U.S. origin.

"The 'Buy America' policy, as mandated by Congress, is an integral component of the U.S. foreign assistance program and is routinely incorporated into the provisions governing USAID-financed projects. As demonstrated by this prosecution, we take its enforcement very seriously," said USAID Inspector General Everett L. Mosley.

Rogers is scheduled for sentencing on January 6, 2004.

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