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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT TACOMA

NETWORK AND IT MANAGEMENT  
LTD., a Cayman Islands limited  
partnership,

Plaintiff,

v.

BACHOCO, S.A. DE C.V., a Mexico  
corporation,

Defendant.

CASE NO. C10-5158BHS

SHOW CAUSE ORDER

This matter comes before the Court on Plaintiff’s complaint (Dkt. 1). The Court has considered the complaint and hereby orders Plaintiff to show cause regarding Plaintiff’s apparent *pro se* representation as discussed herein.

On March 9, 2010, Plaintiff filed its complaint against the above captioned Defendant. Dkt. 1. The complaint is signed “May Greenberg, Manager.” The complaint is not signed on behalf of Plaintiff, a business entity. It appears Plaintiff is attempting to proceed in this matter *pro se*.

Although an individual may represent himself or herself *pro se*, see 28 U.S.C. § 1654, the rules are clear that a business entity is not permitted to proceed *pro se* unless an exception applies. “A business entity, except a sole proprietorship, must be represented by counsel.” Local Rule G(4)(B) (adopted December 1, 2009); see also, e.g., *United*

1 *States v. High Country Broadcasting Co., Inc.*, 3 F.3d 1244, 1245 (9th Cir. 1993) (per  
2 curiam) (A corporation may appear in federal court only through licensed counsel);  
3 *D-Beam Limited Partnership v. Roller Derby Skates, Inc.*, 366 F.3d 972, 973-974 (9th  
4 Cir. 2004) (applying rule to limited partnership) (reaffirming the longstanding rule  
5 recognized in *High Country Broadcasting*). Plaintiff, a business entity, has not established  
6 that any exception to this rule is applicable in this case, and the Court does not find any  
7 exception is warranted.

8 Therefore, it is hereby **ORDERED** that Plaintiff must **SHOW CAUSE** why it is  
9 not subject to Local Rule G(4)(B) and applicable Ninth Circuit law, as discussed above.  
10 Plaintiff must respond to this show cause order on or before March 26, 2010. Failure to  
11 respond and/or cure this deficiency will result in dismissal of Plaintiff's complaint  
12 without prejudice.

13 DATED this 10th day of March, 2010.

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BENJAMIN H. SETTLE  
United States District Judge