

VPTax Case Study

Pacira Pharmaceuticals Says it in Crayon with VPTax

Pacira Pharmaceuticals Inc. is a publicly quoted (NASDAQ: PCRX) biotechnology company developing innovative new products to alleviate pain for surgery patients. In 2011, the FDA announced approval of the first of Pacira's innovative pain treatments and the company announced it is building a national sales force in order to support nationwide commercial launch of the treatment in 2012.

In 2010, Pacira retained VPTax as a consultant on tax issues. Unlike other accounting firms working for Pacira, including one of the Big Four audit firms, VPTax is a specialist focusing only on corporate taxation. VPTax offered an expert level of knowledge of taxation issues, providing practical, actionable advice that saved Pacira time and money.

- VPTax helped Pacira to reduce its tax bill for the Delaware franchise tax, delivering significant savings.
- VPTax helped Pacira develop a strategy for documenting and reporting research and development (R&D) tax credits, to support tax savings in future years when Pacira becomes profitable.
- VPTax enabled Pacira to cut the cost of tax advice as the expertise of VPTax partners reduced the time required for research of tax issues and lengthy meetings with high-paid accounting firm staff.
- VPTax prepared Pacira's property tax returns and managed the audit of prior property tax returns eliminating the need for costly third party contingent fee consultants.
- In 2011, Pacira expanded VPTax's role at the company, asking VPTax to manage Pacira's tax returns, in place of the Big Four accounting firm that previously had that responsibility.



"VPTax has a very high level of expertise and a broad knowledge base of tax issues, so I am able to get an answer quickly, and get it explained at a level where I can talk to our CFO and our Audit Committee about the issues involved," says Pacira Executive Director of Accounting and Reporting Lauren Riker.

Ms. Riker added: "It's one-stop shopping for all my tax needs, it's lower cost than a large firm, and VPTax partners are available on the other end of a phone line whenever I have a question."

"VPTax is a one-stop shop for all my tax needs"

--Lauren Riker, Executive Director, Pacira