

VENTANA MEDICAL SYSTEMS INC  
Form SC TO-T/A  
December 05, 2007

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

Amendment No. 15  
to  
**SCHEDULE TO**  
**(Rule 14d-100)**  
**Tender Offer Statement under Section 14(d)(1) or 13(e)(1) of**  
**the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**VENTANA MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.**  
*(Name of Subject Company)*  
**ROCKET ACQUISITION CORPORATION**  
**ROCHE HOLDING LTD**  
*(Names of Filing Persons — Offeror)*  
**Common Stock, Par Value \$0.001 Per Share**  
**(including the associated preferred stock purchase rights)**  
*(Title of Class of Securities)*

92276H106  
*(Cusip Number of Class of Securities)*

**Beat Kraehenmann**  
**Roche Holding Ltd**  
**Grenzacherstrasse 124**  
**CH-4070 Basel**  
**Switzerland**  
**Telephone: +41-61-688-1111**  
*(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Authorized to Receive Notices*  
*and Communications on Behalf of Filing Persons)*

*Copies to:*

**Christopher Mayer**  
**Davis Polk & Wardwell**  
**450 Lexington Avenue**  
**New York, New York 10017**  
**Telephone: (212) 450-4000**

**CALCULATION OF FILING FEE**

**Transaction Valuation\***

**Amount of Filing Fee\*\***

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\$2,978,902,500

\$91,452.31

\*Estimated for purposes of calculating the filing fee only. This amount assumes the purchase of all 33,668,000 shares of common stock of Ventana Medical Systems, Inc. outstanding as of March 31, 2007, all options outstanding as of March 31, 2007 with respect to 6,022,000 shares of common stock of Ventana, and all restricted stock and restricted stock units outstanding as of March 31, 2007 with respect to 28,700 shares of common stock of Ventana. The number of outstanding shares, options, and restricted stock and restricted stock units is contained in Ventana's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2007.

\*\*The amount of the filing fee is calculated in accordance with Rule 0-11 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, by multiplying the transaction valuation by 0.0000307.

R Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing with which the offsetting fee was previously paid. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

Amount Previously Paid: \$91,452.31  
Form or Registration No.: SC TO-T

Filing Party: Roche Holding Ltd  
Date Filed: June 27, 2007

£ Check the box if the filing relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer.

Check the appropriate boxes below to designate any transactions to which the statement relates:

- R third-party tender offer subject to Rule 14d-1.
- £ issuer tender offer subject to Rule 13e-4.
- £ going-private transaction subject to Rule 13e-3.
- £ amendment to Schedule 13D under Rule 13d-2.

Check the following box if the filing is a final amendment reporting the results of the tender offer. £

***Items 1 through 5, Items 7 through 9 and Item 11.***

This Amendment No. 15 to Tender Offer Statement on Schedule TO (the “**Schedule TO**”) amends and supplements the statement originally filed on June 27, 2007 by Roche Holding Ltd, a joint stock company organized under the laws of Switzerland (“**Parent**”), and Rocket Acquisition Corporation (the “**Purchaser**”), a Delaware corporation and an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Parent. This Schedule TO relates to the offer by the Purchaser to purchase all outstanding shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (together with the associated preferred stock purchase rights, the “**Shares**”), of Ventana Medical Systems, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the “**Company**”), at \$75.00 per Share, net to the seller in cash, without interest and less applicable withholding taxes, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Offer to Purchase, dated June 27, 2007 (the “**Offer to Purchase**”), and in the related Letter of Transmittal (which, together with any amendments or supplements thereto, collectively constitute the “**Offer**”).

The information set forth in the Offer to Purchase, including all schedules thereto, and the related Letter of Transmittal is expressly incorporated herein by reference with respect to all of the items of this Schedule TO, except as otherwise set forth below.

All capitalized terms used in this Amendment No. 15 without definition have the meanings ascribed to them in the Schedule TO.

***Item 6. Purpose of the Transaction and Plans or Proposals.***

On December 5, 2007, Roche announced that it had given notice to the Company, as required by the Company’s bylaws, that it will nominate independent candidates to replace the Company Board at the Company’s 2008 annual stockholders meeting. Roche will nominate Dwight B. Crane, John J. Jones, Loring W. Knoblauch, and Michael L. Kranda for election to the Company’s four Class III director seats that are up for election at the Company’s 2008 annual stockholders meeting. In addition, Roche intends to seek stockholder approval to amend the Company’s bylaws to eliminate the classified board and to remove all of the Company’s directors, other than the four Class III directors elected at the 2008 annual stockholders meeting. If stockholders approve the elimination of the classified board and removal of directors, Roche intends to seek stockholder approval to amend the Company’s bylaws to reduce the size of the Company Board from 10 to seven members and to elect Bary G. Bailey, Jay B. Hunt and Anthony H. Wild to the three vacant seats on the Company Board. If one or more of the individuals listed above is unable to serve on the Company Board, Roche intends to nominate Philip R. Lochner, Jr. and/or David A. Dodd as additional or substitute nominees. The full text of a press release issued by Parent announcing that it had given notice to the Company is filed as Exhibit (a)(5)(xv) hereto and is incorporated herein by reference.

***Item 10. Financial Statements.***

Not applicable.

***Item 12. Exhibits.***

Item 12 is hereby amended and supplemented with the following information:

Exhibit (a)(5)(xv) Press Release issued by Roche Holding Ltd, dated December 5, 2007.

SIGNATURES

After due inquiry and to the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, each of the undersigned certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: December 5, 2007

ROCKET ACQUISITION CORPORATION

By: /s/ Beat Kraehenmann  
Name: Beat Kraehenmann  
Title: Secretary

ROCHE HOLDING LTD

By: /s/ Bruno Maier  
Name: Bruno Maier  
Title: Authorized Signatory

By: /s/ Beat Kraehenmann  
Name: Beat Kraehenmann  
Title: Authorized Signatory

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EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
(a)(1)(i)	Offer to Purchase dated June 27, 2007*
(a)(1)(ii)	Letter of Transmittal*
(a)(1)(iii)	Notice of Guaranteed Delivery*
(a)(1)(iv)	Letter to Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees*
(a)(1)(v)	Letter to Clients for use by Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees*
(a)(1)(vi)	Guidelines for Certification of Taxpayer Identification Number on Substitute Form W-9*
(a)(1)(vii)	Summary Advertisement dated June 27, 2007*
(a)(5)(i)	Press Release issued by Roche Holding Ltd, dated June 25, 2007*
(a)(5)(ii)	Complaint filed in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County on June 29, 2007*
(a)(5)(iii)	Complaint filed in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona on June 29, 2007*
(a)(5)(iv)	Press Release issued by Roche Holding Ltd, dated July 11, 2007*
(a)(5)(v)	Excerpt from an Investor Presentation by Roche Holding Ltd, dated July 19, 2007*
(a)(5)(vi)	Transcript of an Investor Presentation by Roche Holding Ltd, dated July 19, 2007*
(a)(5)(vii)	Press Release issued by Roche Holding Ltd, dated July 25, 2007*
(a)(5)(viii)	Press Release issued by Roche Holding Ltd, dated July 26, 2007*
(a)(5)(ix)	Press Release issued by Roche Holding Ltd, dated August 21, 2007*
(a)(5)(x)	Press Release issued by Roche Holding Ltd, dated August 22, 2007*
(a)(5)(xi)	Press Release issued by Roche Holding Ltd, dated September 19, 2007*
(a)(5)(xii)	Press Release issued by Roche Holding Ltd, dated October 29, 2007*
(a)(5)(xiii)	First Amended Complaint filed in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware in and for New Castle County on October 26, 2007*
(a)(5)(xiv)	Press Release issued by Roche Holding Ltd, dated November 13, 2007*
(a)(5)(xv)	Press Release issued by Roche Holding Ltd, dated December 5, 2007
(b)	Not applicable
(c)	Not applicable
(d)	Not applicable
(f)	Not applicable
(g)	Not applicable
(h)	Not applicable

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\* Previously filed