

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

WILLIAM VERICK, SBN 140972
Klamath Environmental Law Center
FREDRIC EVENSON, SBN 198059
424 First Street
Eureka, CA 95501
Telephone: (707) 268-8900
Facsimile: (707) 268-8901
Email: wverick@igc.org
ecorights@earthlink.net

DAVID WILLIAMS, SBN 144479
BRIAN ACREE, SBN 202505
370 Grand Avenue, Suite 5
Oakland, CA 94610
Telephone: (510) 271-0826
Facsimile: (510) 271-0829
Email: davidhwilliams@earthlink.net
brianacree@earthlink.net

Attorneys for Plaintiff,
MATEEL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOUNDATION

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
(Unlimited Jurisdiction)

MATEEL ENVIRONMENTAL
JUSTICE FOUNDATION,

Plaintiff,
v.

WOODCRAFT SUPPLY CORP.; VERITAS
TOOLS, INC.

Defendants.

CASE NO. **CGC-08-471444**

COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF
AND CIVIL PENALTIES

TOXIC TORT/ENVIRONMENTAL

MATEEL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOUNDATION alleges as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. This Complaint seeks civil penalties and an injunction to remedy the continuing failure of defendant WOODCRAFT SUPPLY CORP. and VERITAS TOOLS, INC. (hereinafter "Defendants"), to give clear and reasonable warnings to those residents of California, who

ENDORSED
FILED
SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT

2008 JAN 28 AM 11:29

GORDON PARK - LI. CLERK
D. STEPPE

BY: _____
DEPUTY CLERK

CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE SET

JUN 27 2008 - 9⁰⁰AM

DEPARTMENT 212

1 handle and use tools made of brass and bronze alloys which contain lead (collectively hereinafter
2 “Leaded Brass Tools”). The handling and use of these products causes those residents to be
3 exposed to lead and lead compounds, lead acetate, lead phosphate, and lead subacetate
4 (hereinafter, collectively, “lead”). The types of products to which this Complaint pertains are
5 those types listed in the Proposition 65 60-Day Notice Letter that is attached to and incorporated
6 by reference into this Complaint. Lead is known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth
7 defects and male and female reproductive toxicity. Defendants manufacture, distribute, and/or
8 market Leaded Brass Tools. These products cause exposures to lead and lead compounds, which
9 are chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects and other
10 reproductive harm.

11 2. Defendants are businesses that manufacture, market, and/or distribute Leaded
12 Brass Tools. Defendants intend that residents of California handle and use Leaded Brass Tools
13 that Defendants manufacture, market, and/or distribute. When these products are handled and
14 used in their normally intended manner, they expose people to lead. In spite of knowing that
15 residents of California were and are being exposed to these chemicals when they handle and use
16 Leaded Brass Tools, Defendants did not and does not provide clear and reasonable warnings that
17 these products cause exposure to chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects and other
18 reproductive harm.

19 3. Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief pursuant to Health & Safety Code Section 25249.7
20 to compel Defendants to bring their business practices into compliance with section 25249.5 et
21 seq. by providing a clear and reasonable warning to each individual who has been and who in the
22 future may be exposed to the above mentioned toxic chemicals from the use of Defendants’
23 products. Plaintiff seeks an order that defendants identify and locate each individual person who
24 in the past has purchased Leaded Brass Tools and to provide to each such purchaser a clear and
25 reasonable warning that the Leaded Brass Tools will cause exposures to chemicals known to
26 cause birth defects.

27 4. In addition to injunctive relief, plaintiff seeks civil penalties to remedy the failure
28 of Defendants to provide clear and reasonable warnings regarding exposure to chemicals known

1 to cause cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm.

2 PARTIES

3 5. Plaintiff MATEEL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOUNDATION ("Mateel")
4 is a non-profit organization dedicated to, among other causes, the protection of the environment,
5 promotion of human health, environmental education, and consumer rights. Mateel is based in
6 Eureka, California, and is incorporated under the laws of the State of California. Mateel is a
7 "person" pursuant to Health & Safety Code Section 25118. Mateel brings this enforcement
8 action in the public interest pursuant to Health & Safety Code §25249.7(d). Residents of
9 California are regularly exposed to lead and lead compounds from Leaded Brass Tools
10 manufactured, distributed or marketed by Defendants and are so exposed without a clear and
11 reasonable Proposition 65 warning.

12 6. Defendants are persons doing business within the meaning of Health & Safety
13 Code Section 25249.11. Defendants are businesses that manufacture, distribute, and/or market
14 Leaded Brass Tools in California, including the City and County of San Francisco.
15 Manufacture, distribution and/or marketing of these products in the City and County of San
16 Francisco and/or to people who live in San Francisco, causes people to be exposed to lead and
17 lead compounds while they are physically present in the City and County of San Francisco.

18 7. Plaintiff brings this enforcement action against Defendants pursuant to Health &
19 Safety Code Section 25249.7(d). Attached hereto and incorporated by reference are copies of
20 60-day Notice letters dated June 11, 2007 and October 31, 2007 which Mateel sent to
21 California's Attorney General. Substantially identical letters were sent to every District Attorney
22 in the state, and to the City Attorneys of every California city with a population greater than
23 750,000. On those same days, Mateel sent identical 60-Day Notice letters to Defendants.
24 Attached to the 60-Day Notice Letters sent to Defendants was a summary of Proposition 65 that
25 was prepared by California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. In addition,
26 each 60-Day Notice Letter plaintiff sent was accompanied by a Certificate of Service attesting to
27 the service of the 60-Day Notice Letter on each entity which received it. Pursuant to California
28 Health & Safety Code Section 25249.7(d), a Certificate of Merit attesting to the reasonable and

1 meritorious basis for the action was also sent with each 60-Day Notice Letter. Factual
2 information sufficient to establish the basis of the Certificate of Merit was enclosed with the 60-
3 Day Notice letters Mateel sent to the Attorney General.

4 9. Defendants are businesses that employ more than ten people.

5 JURISDICTION

6 10. The Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to California Health & Safety
7 Code Section 25249.7. California Constitution Article VI, Section 10 grants the Superior Court
8 "original jurisdiction in all causes except those given by statute to other trial courts." Chapter
9 6.6 of the Health & Safety Code, which contains the statutes under which this action is brought,
10 does not grant jurisdiction to any other trial court.

11 11. This Court also has jurisdiction over Defendants because Defendants are
12 businesses that have sufficient minimum contacts in California and within the City and County
13 of San Francisco. Defendants intentionally availed themselves of the California and San
14 Francisco County markets for Leaded Brass Tools. It is thus consistent with traditional notions
15 of fair play and substantial justice for the San Francisco Superior Court to exercise jurisdiction
16 over Defendants.

17 12. Venue is proper in this Court because Defendants market their products in and
18 around San Francisco and thus causes people to be exposed to lead and lead compounds while
19 those people are physically present in San Francisco. Liability for Plaintiff's causes of action, or
20 some parts thereof, has accordingly arisen in San Francisco during the times relevant to this
21 Complaint and Plaintiff seeks civil penalties and forfeitures imposed by statutes.

22 FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION 23 (Claim for Injunctive Relief)

24 13. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference into this First Cause of Action, as
25 if specifically set forth herein, paragraphs 1 through 12, inclusive.

26 14. The People of the State of California have declared by referendum under
27 Proposition 65 (California Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 et seq.) their right "[t]o be informed
28 about exposures to chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects, and reproductive harm."

1 PRAYER FOR RELIEF

2 Wherefore, plaintiff prays for judgment against DEFENDANTS, as follows:

3 1. Pursuant to the First Cause of Action, that Defendants be enjoined, restrained, and
4 ordered to comply with the provisions of Section 25249.6 of the California Health & Safety
5 Code;

6 2. Pursuant to the Second Cause of Action, that Defendants be assessed a civil
7 penalty in an amount equal to \$2,500.00 per day per individual exposed, in violation of Section
8 25249.6 of the California Health & Safety Code, to lead and lead compounds as the result of
9 Defendants' manufacturing, distributing or marketing of Leaded Brass Tools;

10 3. That Defendants be ordered to identify and locate each individual who purchased
11 Leaded Brass Tools and provide a warning to each such person that the Leaded Brass Tools the
12 person purchased will expose that person to chemicals known to cause birth defects.

13 4. That, pursuant to Civil Procedure Code § 1021.5, Defendants be ordered to pay to
14 Plaintiff the attorneys fees and costs it incurred in bringing this enforcement action.

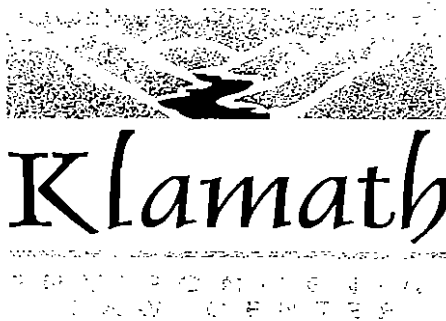
15 5. For such other relief as this court deems just and proper.

16 Dated: January 17, 2008

Klamath Environmental Law Center

17
18
19 By 

20 William Verick
21 Attorney for Plaintiff
22 Mateel Environmental Justice Foundation
23
24
25
26
27
28



June 11, 2007

EDWARD G. WEIL
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
P.O. BOX 70550
OAKLAND CA 94612-0550

Greetings:

This office and the Mateel Environmental Justice Foundation ("Mateel") give you notice that Woodcraft Supply Corp. has been, is and threatens to be in violation of Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6. Both this office and Mateel are private enforcers of Proposition 65, both may be contacted at the below listed address and telephone number, and I am a responsible individual for both Mateel and this office. The above referenced violations occur when California residents come into contact with hand tools which are made, in part, of brass or bronze, both of which are alloys that contain lead. Examples of these types of tools are: Brass Router Bushing 1" OD x 7/8" ID #144695; Brass Router Bushing 7/16" OD x 11/32" ID # 144690; Brass Router Bushing 5/8" OD x 17/32" ID # 144692. Though specific models or SKU or product numbers are given as examples, this notice pertains to all models, and all variations, of the specific type of product of which the named model is an example. Brass and/or bronze parts of these tools, which users of the tools handle, contain high levels of lead and lead compounds ("lead"), chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm. Woodcraft Supply Corp. either makes or markets these router bushings. People are exposed to lead at work or elsewhere when they use these bushings and their skin thus comes into contact with the leaded brass or bronze. Lead is transferred from the bushings to the hands of the people using these products. The lead then enters their bodies when it is absorbed directly through the skin, through mucous membranes, or through cuts and/or abrasions when they touch their hands to their mouths and other mucous membranes, or when they touch cigarettes or food and then smoke the cigarettes or ingest the food. These exposures thus occur via the dermal absorption, mucous membrane, subcutaneous, inhalation and ingestion routes. Woodcraft Supply Corp. did not and does not provide people with clear and reasonable warnings before it exposes them to lead. The above referenced violations have occurred every day since at least June 11, 2004 and will continue every day until the lead is taken out of these products or until warnings are given. These violations are alleged for occupational exposures as well as for consumer and environmental exposures. We do not, however, allege occupational exposure violations as to any of these products manufactured outside of California, except as to workplaces Woodcraft Supply Corp. itself maintains in California. Exposures constituting Proposition 65 environmental exposure violations occur both on and off the property of Woodcraft Supply Corp and in each of California's 58 counties.

Cordially,

William Verick

SERVICE LIST

EDWARD G. WEIL
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL
P.O. BOX 70550
OAKLAND CA 94612-0550

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF OAKLAND
505 14TH ST 12TH FLOOR
OAKLAND, CA 94612

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO
CITY HALL ROOM 206
400 VAN NESS
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF SACRAMENTO
980 9th Street, 10th Floor
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF SAN JOSE
151 W. MISSION ST.
SAN JOSE, CA 95110

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
200 N. MAIN ST.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF SAN DIEGO CONSUMER &
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
1200 THIRD AVENUE, SUITE 700
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
1225 FALLON STREET ROOM 900
OAKLAND, CA 94612

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF ALPINE
P.O. BOX 248
MARKLEEVILLE, CA 96120

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF AMADOR
708 COURT STREET
JACKSON, CA 95642

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF BUTTE
25 COUNTY CENTER DR.
OROVILLE, CA 95965

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF CALAVERAS
GOVERNMENT CENTER
891 MOUNTAIN RANCH ROAD
SAN ANDREAS, CA 95249

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF COLUSA
547 MARKET STREET
COLUSA, CA 95932

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA
P.O. BOX 670
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF DEL NORTE
450 H ST #171
CRESCENT CITY, CA 95531

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF EL DORADO
515 MAIN ST.
PLACERVILLE, CA 95667

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF FRESNO
2220 TULARE ST #1000
FRESNO, CA 93721

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF GLENN
P.O. BOX 430
WILLOWS, CA 95988

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
825 5TH ST.
EUREKA, CA 95501

COUNTY OF IMPERIAL
COURTHOUSE, FLOOR 2
939 W. MAIN ST
EL CENTRO, CA 92243

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF INYO
P.O. DRAWER D
INDEPENDENCE, CA 93526

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF KERN
1215 TRUXTUN AVE. FLOOR 4
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF KINGS
1400 W. LACEY BLVD.
HANFORD, CA 93230

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF LAKE
255 N. FORBES ST # 424
LAKEPORT, CA 95453

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF LASSEN
220 SOUTH LASSEN ST. STE 8
SUSANVILLE, CA 96130

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
18000 CRIMINAL COURTS
BUILDING
210 W. TEMPLE ST.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MADERA
209 W. YOSEMITE AVE.
MADERA, CA 93637

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MARIN
HALL OF JUSTICE #183
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MARIPOSA
P.O. BOX 730
MARIPOSA, CA 95338

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
PO BOX 1000
UKIAH, CA 95482

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MERCED
2222 M ST.
MERCED, CA 95340

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MODOC
204 SOUTH COURT STREET
ALTURAS, CA 96101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MONO
P.O. BOX 617
BRIDGEPORT, CA 93517

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MONTEREY
240 CHURCH STREET
P.O. BOX 1131
SALINAS, CA 93902

COUNTY OF NAPA
931 PARKWAY MALL
P.O. BOX 720
NAPA, CA 94559-0720

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF NEVADA
COURTHOUSE ANNEX
NEVADA CITY, CA 95959

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF ORANGE
401 CIVIC CENTER DR WEST
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF PLACER
11562 B AVE
AUBURN, CA 95603-2687

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF PLUMAS
520 MAIN STREET #404
QUINCY, CA 95971

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
4075 MAIN ST.
RIVERSIDE, CA 92501

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
901 G STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN BENITO
419 4TH ST
HOLLISTER, CA 95023

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO
316 MT. VIEW AVE.
SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415-0004

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
330 W. BROADWAY
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
850 BRYANT ST #322
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN
222 E. WEBER AVE #202
STOCKTON, CA 95202

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER #450
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93408

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
HALL OF JUSTICE AND RECORDS
REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
1112 SANTA BARBARA ST.
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
70 W. HEDDING ST.
SAN JOSE, CA 95110

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ
701 OCEAN ST. #200
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SHASTA
1525 COURT ST.
REDDING, CA 96001

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SIERRA
P.O. BOX 457
DOWNIEVILLE, CA 95936

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SISKIYOU
P.O. BOX 986
YREKA, CA 96097

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SOLANO
600 UNION AVE
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SONOMA
600 ADMINISTRATION DR. #212J
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
1100 I ST. #200
MODESTO, CA 95354

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SUTTER
1160 CIVIC CENTER BLVD. #A
YUBA CITY, CA 95993

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TEHAMA
P.O. BOX 519
REDBLUFF, CA 96080

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TRINITY
P.O. BOX 310
WEAVERVILLE, CA 96093

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TULARE
COURTHOUSE #224
VISALIA, CA 93291

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE
2 S. GREEN ST.
SONORA, CA 95370

VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
800 SOUTH VICTORIA AVE
VENTURA, CA 93009

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF YOLO
301 SECOND STREET
WOODLAND, CA 95695

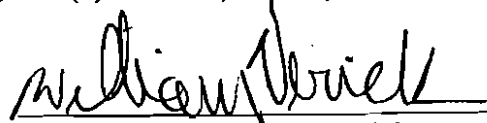
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF YUBA
215 5TH ST.
MARYSVILLE, CA 95901

BRYAN KATCHUR, CEO
WOODCRAFT SUPPLY CORP.
22 CHADWICK SQUARE
VIENNA, WV 26105

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

I, William Verick, hereby declare: This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice(s) in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notices have violated Health and Safety Code section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings. I am the attorney for the noticing party. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who has reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the action. Based on the information obtained through those consultations, and on all other information in my possession, I believe there is a reasonable and meritorious case for the private action. I understand that "reasonable and meritorious case for the private action" means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the plaintiffs' case can be established and the information did not prove that the alleged violator will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute. The copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General attaches to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(h)(2), i.e., (1) the identity of the person(s) consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and (2) the facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons.

Dated: June 11, 2007



William Verick

This notice alleges the violation of Proposition 65 with respect to occupational exposures governed by the California State Plan for Occupational Safety and Health. The State Plan incorporates the provisions of Proposition 65, as approved by Federal OSHA on June 6, 1997. This approval specifically placed certain conditions on Proposition 65, including that it does not apply to the conduct of manufacturers occurring outside the State of California. The approval also provides that an employer may use the means of compliances in the general hazard communication requirements to comply with Proposition 65. It also requires that supplemental enforcement is subject to the supervision of the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Accordingly, any settlement, civil complaint, or substantive court orders in this matter must be submitted to the Attorney General.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Nicole Frank, declare:

If called, I could and would testify as follows: I am over eighteen. My business address is 424 First Street, Eureka, California, 95501. On June 11, 2007, I caused the attached 60-DAY NOTICE LETTER, or a letter identical in substance, to be served by U.S. Mail on those public enforcement agencies listed on the attached SERVICE LIST; in addition on the same date and by U.S. Mail I caused the attached 60-DAY NOTICE LETTER and PROPOSITION 65: A SUMMARY to be sent by Certified U.S. Mail to the private business entities also listed on the attached SERVICE LIST. I deposited copies of these documents in envelopes, postage pre-paid, with the U.S. Postal Service on the day on which the mail is collected. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on June 11, 2007, at Eureka, California.



Nicole Frank



Klamath

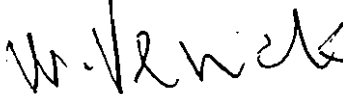
October 31, 2007

EDWARD G. WEIL
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
P.O. BOX 70550
OAKLAND CA 94612-0550

Greetings:

This office and the Mateel Environmental Justice Foundation ("Mateel") give you notice that Veritas Tools, Inc. ("Veritas") has been, is and threatens to be in violation of Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6. Both this office and Mateel are private enforcers of Proposition 65, both may be contacted at the below listed address and telephone number, and I am a responsible individual for both Mateel and this office. The above referenced violations occur when California residents come into contact with tools that are made from, or that incorporate as components, leaded brass. The brass on these tools thus contain lead and lead compounds ("lead"), which are chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm. Veritas markets these brass-containing hand tools. Some specific example of the products to which this notice pertains are: Veritas Sharpening System #05M02.10 UPC: 722356 056509; Veritas Scraper Holder #05K33.01 UPC: 722356 219003; Veritas Grinding Jig #05M06.01; Skew Grinding Jig #03B36; Skew-grinding Jig #05N13.01 These product descriptions pertain not only to the specific models of the products listed, but also for all units of all models of tools that have brass components. People are exposed to lead at work or elsewhere when they use these tools and their skin comes into contact with the brass. Lead is transferred from the tools to the hands of the people using these products. The lead then enters their bodies when it is absorbed directly through the skin, through mucous membranes, or through cuts and/or abrasions, when they touch their hands to their mouths and other mucous membranes, or when they touch cigarettes or food and then smoke the cigarettes or ingest the food. These exposures thus occur via the dermal absorption, mucous membrane, subcutaneous, inhalation and ingestion routes. Veritas did not and does not provide people with clear and reasonable warnings before it exposes them to lead. The above referenced violations have occurred every day since at least October 31, 2004 and will continue every day until the lead is taken out of these products or until warnings are given. These violations are alleged for occupational exposures as well as for consumer and environmental exposures. We do not, however, allege occupational exposure violations as to any brass tools made outside of California, except as to workplaces Veritas itself maintains in California. Exposures constituting Proposition 65 environmental exposure violations occur both on and off Veritas Tools, Inc.'s property and in each of California's 58 counties.

Cordially,



William Verick

SERVICE LIST

EDWARD G. WEIL
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL
P.O. BOX 70550
OAKLAND CA 94612-0550

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF OAKLAND
505 14TH ST 12TH FLOOR
OAKLAND, CA 94612

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO
CITY HALL ROOM 206
400 VAN NESS
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF SACRAMENTO
980 9th Street, 10th Floor
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF SAN JOSE
151 W. MISSION ST.
SAN JOSE, CA 95110

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
200 N. MAIN ST.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF SAN DIEGO CONSUMER &
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
1200 THIRD AVENUE, SUITE 700
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
1225 FALLON STREET ROOM 900
OAKLAND, CA 94612

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF ALPINE
P.O. BOX 248
MARKLEEVILLE, CA 96120

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF AMADOR
708 COURT STREET
JACKSON, CA 95642

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF BUTTE
25 COUNTY CENTER DR.
OROVILLE, CA 95965

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF CALAVERAS
GOVERNMENT CENTER
891 MOUNTAIN RANCH ROAD
SAN ANDREAS, CA 95249

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF COLUSA
547 MARKET STREET
COLUSA, CA 95932

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA
P.O. BOX 670
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF DEL NORTE
450 H ST #171
CRESCENT CITY, CA 95531

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF EL DORADO
515 MAIN ST.
PLACERVILLE, CA 95667

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF FRESNO
2220 TULARE ST #1000
FRESNO, CA 93721

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF GLENN
P.O. BOX 430
WILLOWS, CA 95988

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
825 5TH ST.
EUREKA, CA 95501

COUNTY OF IMPERIAL
COURTHOUSE, FLOOR 2
939 W. MAIN ST
EL CENTRO, CA 92243

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF INYO
P.O. DRAWER D
INDEPENDENCE, CA 93526

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF KERN
1215 TRUXTUN AVE. FLOOR 4
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF KINGS
1400 W. LACEY BLVD.
HANFORD, CA 93230

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF LAKE
255 N. FORBES ST # 424
LAKEPORT, CA 95453

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF LASSEN
220 SOUTH LASSEN ST. STE 8
SUSANVILLE, CA 96130

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
18000 CRIMINAL COURTS
BUILDING
210 W. TEMPLE ST.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MADERA
209 W. YOSEMITE AVE.
MADERA, CA 93637

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MARIN
HALL OF JUSTICE #183
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MARIPOSA
P.O. BOX 730
MARIPOSA, CA 95338

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
PO BOX 1000
UKIAH, CA 95482

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MERCED
2222 M ST.
MERCED, CA 95340

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MODOC
204 SOUTH COURT STREET
ALTURAS, CA 96101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MONO
P.O. BOX 617
BRIDGEPORT, CA 93517

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MONTEREY
240 CHURCH STREET
P.O. BOX 1131
SALINAS, CA 93902

COUNTY OF NAPA
931 PARKWAY MALL
P.O. BOX 720
NAPA, CA 94559-0720

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF NEVADA
COURTHOUSE ANNEX
NEVADA CITY, CA 95959

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF ORANGE
401 CIVIC CENTER DR WEST
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF PLACER
11562 B AVE
AUBURN, CA 95603-2687

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF PLUMAS
520 MAIN STREET #404
QUINCY, CA 95971

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
4075 MAIN ST.
RIVERSIDE, CA 92501

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
901 G STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN BENITO
419 4TH ST
HOLLISTER, CA 95023

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO
316 MT. VIEW AVE.
SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415-0004

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
330 W. BROADWAY
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
850 BRYANT ST #322
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN
222 E. WEBER AVE #202
STOCKTON, CA 95202

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER #450
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93408

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
HALL OF JUSTICE AND RECORDS
REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
1112 SANTA BARBARA ST.
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
70 W. HEDDING ST.
SAN JOSE, CA 95110

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ
701 OCEAN ST. #200
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SHASTA
1525 COURT ST.
REDDING, CA 96001

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SIERRA
P.O. BOX 457
DOWNIEVILLE, CA 95936

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SISKIYOU
P.O. BOX 986
YREKA, CA 96097

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SOLANO
600 UNION AVE
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SONOMA
600 ADMINISTRATION DR. #212J
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
1100 I ST. #200
MODESTO, CA 95354

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SUTTER
1160 CIVIC CENTER BLVD. #A
YUBA CITY, CA 95993

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TEHAMA
P.O. BOX 519
REDBLUFF, CA 96080

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TRINITY
P.O. BOX 310
WEAVERVILLE, CA 96093

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TULARE
COURTHOUSE #224
VISALIA, CA 93291

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE
2 S. GREEN ST.
SONORA, CA 95370

VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
800 SOUTH VICTORIA AVE
VENTURA, CA 93009

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF YOLO
301 SECOND STREET
WOODLAND, CA 95695

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF YUBA
215 5TH ST.
MARYSVILLE, CA 95901

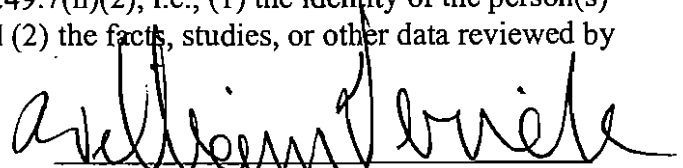
PRESIDENT OR CEO
VERITAS TOOLS, INC.
1090 MORRISON DR.
OTTAWA, ONTARIO
CANADA
K2H 1C2

PRESIDENT OR CEO
VERITAS TOOLS, INC.
814 PROCTOR AVE.
OGDENSBURG, NY 13669-2205

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

I, William Verick, hereby declare: This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice(s) in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notices have violated Health and Safety Code section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings. I am the attorney for the noticing party. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who has reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the action. Based on the information obtained through those consultations, and on all other information in my possession, I believe there is a reasonable and meritorious case for the private action. I understand that "reasonable and meritorious case for the private action" means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the plaintiffs' case can be established and the information did not prove that the alleged violator will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute. The copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General attaches to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(h)(2), i.e., (1) the identity of the person(s) consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and (2) the facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons.

Dated: October 31, 2007



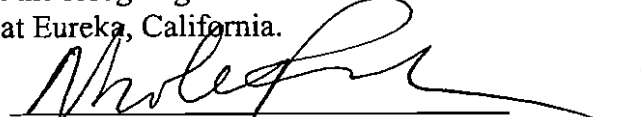
William Verick

This notice alleges the violation of Proposition 65 with respect to occupational exposures governed by the California State Plan for Occupational Safety and Health. The State Plan incorporates the provisions of Proposition 65, as approved by Federal OSHA on June 6, 1997. This approval specifically placed certain conditions on Proposition 65, including that it does not apply to the conduct of manufacturers occurring outside the State of California. The approval also provides that an employer may use the means of compliances in the general hazard communication requirements to comply with Proposition 65. It also requires that supplemental enforcement is subject to the supervision of the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Accordingly, any settlement, civil complaint, or substantive court orders in this matter must be submitted to the Attorney General.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Nicole Frank, declare:

If called, I could and would testify as follows: I am over eighteen. My business address is 424 First Street, Eureka, California, 95501. On October 31, 2007, I caused the attached 60-DAY NOTICE LETTER, or a letter identical in substance, to be served by U.S. Mail on those public enforcement agencies listed on the attached SERVICE LIST; in addition on the same date and by U.S. Mail I caused the attached 60-DAY NOTICE LETTER and PROPOSITION 65: A SUMMARY to be sent by Certified U.S. Mail to the private business entities also listed on the attached SERVICE LIST. I deposited copies of these documents in envelopes, postage pre-paid, with the U.S. Postal Service on the day on which the mail is collected. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on October 31, 2007, at Eureka, California.



Nicole Frank